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Dinner Chat

1941, a Year for Peace

THE CHIEF work of 1941 will be an effort to restore peace to the world, observes the *Southern Cross*, published by the diocese of San Diego, California.

"When the passions and the hatreds of men clamor for blood and destruction," says this Christian journal, "it is the manifest duty of the Christian world to labor for peace.

"War seldom settled any question or served merely the cause of justice. Its roots are deep-set in injustice and in the manifold hatreds and ambitions that embitter the minds of men.

"In this country, thank God, the individual can still be heard. There is no *Gestapo* nor O.G.P.U. to throw him into dungeons or concentration camps just because he speaks his mind.

"Before speaking his mind the Christian should first compare his sentiments with the principles of his religion . . . His common sense will tell him that the accident of superior force does not increase the cogency of argument nor detract from the claims of justice.

"Less than a quarter of a century ago war raged over the earth. There were conquerors but no victories. On the contrary there were irremediable losses on all sides.

"The brutalities of war dulled the appreciation of the spiritual and cultural. A wave of immorality flooded the world after the last war, sweeping away respect for the laws of both God and man.

"Ruined bodies, broken homes, frustrated lives were but a few of the results of the first World War.

"And all to no avail, for none knew why it started nor why it had been carried to such a barbarous conclusion in the name of peace . . .

"The work for peace in 1941 must begin with the individual's peace with God. From that peace will spring a devotion to the positive virtues that insures peace amongst men. From that peace, too, will spring an active and necessary intolerance of the ideas and spurious philosophies of alien schemers and oily propagandists who would turn us into a nation of Dons Quixote."

> "FOR us to attempt to reform all Europe and bring them back to principles of morality, and a respect for the equal rights of nations would show us to be only maniacs of another character."
>
> —Thomas Jefferson

God and the War

"Two classes of people have been asking why God inflicted the war on humanity and why He does not stop it," comments the *Catholic News* of New York.

"One is composed of sincere persons who are mixed up in their thinking. The other is made up of scoffers. The masterly discussion of the subject over the radio on the Catholic Hour by the Right Rev. Monsignor Fulton J. Sheen effectively answers both groups.

"The war was started not by God but by man. Why does He permit it?

"'For exactly the same reason God allows you to cut your fingers if you wantonly clutch at a razor,' Monsignor Sheen answers.

"'Your bleeding fingers are the red witness to your rebellion against the laws of reason, for reason should have told you the razor would cut. Multiply that rebellion against the Divine Reason by millions and you have the war.'

"God promised peace to those who do His Will, to those who love God and who love their neighbor for the love of God. Men have ignored this basic law of peace and then profess amazement because there is no peace.

"Why does God not stop the war? 'It is indeed curious,' says Monsignor Sheen, 'that you who never before believed in a miracle, not even the Resurrection of the Son of God from the dead, now ask for a miracle!

"'Do you who boasted a few years ago of the omnipotence of science now want your science to be nullified by a miracle destroying all the laws of nature, so that gunpowder will not explode, ships will not sink, bombs will not fall, and cannons will not shoot?

> "WHY quit our own to stand upon foreign soil? Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European ambition, rivalship, interest, humor or caprice?"
>
> —George Washington

"'Do you who boasted of freedom as the right to do whatever you please now want God to take your freedom away?'"

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Dad Can't Eat Pie: Biscuits, Pete's Worry

HELLO, FOLKS:

Well how are y' ennyway? Seems ages since I dropt in on y' las' week.

I thought I might have a littul bit uv news f'r y' t'day 'bout Pal's Bossus much-talked uv vakashun, but I didn't hear ennythin' more 'n I tol' y' las' week. I s'pose it'll turn out like so menny uv 'em have in th' past — a round th' world trip in y'r own parlor by way uv maps 'n folders that tourist buros put out t' get y'r ol' feet itchin' t' be goin' to faraway places.

Maybe, too, Pal's Boss might think he should stay close t' th' home kamp on akkount uv his father. But from th' looks uv Dad, he'll be abul t' take pretty good care uv himself. Yep, he's been up 'n around spryer'n ever, thanks be t' God—and to all your kind prayers for him.

He gave us a good skare, though, a kuppla times, which I hope won't happen again.

Th' one thing that Dad is kinda put out about since his operashun is th' fakt that he can't have his fav'rite dessert — 'n that's pie. Boy, that man usta eat it f'r breakfast even, 'n would have it f'r lunch 'n dinner if he could get away with it. "Ol' Pie-Face," Mother Coughlin usta call him.

* * *

Speakin' 'bout pie, folks, remin's me t' let y' know that my rashun's 'r threatened, too. While I don't care much 'bout th' pie, I do think a great deal uv my dog biskuts 'n I'm gettin' pretty much worried that I'm gonna hafta get usta goin' without 'em if somethin' isn't done pretty soon.

I was up t' see May Schulte — she's th' lady in charge uv all th' figgers, y'know — 'n she tol' me if I didn't get my frien's t' help me out a little better'n they have lately she'd cut down my 'lowance.

I guess some uv our ol' frien's didn't think they needed t' read SOCIAL JUSTICE enny more, 'cause some uv 'em didn't send in their renewals, 'n we feel kinda hurt 'bout it.

Seems t' me y' could manuge t' get the money t'gether bit by bit 'n send it in as y' can. We'll be glad to keep y' on our mailing list, y' know, somehow, 'cause these 're days when ev'rybuddy should be on th' alert t' see that th' principuls of social justice 'r praktised 'n respekted in ev'ry city, town 'n hamlet uv these United States!

Without social justice, y' know, y' can't have much else that men 'n women 'n littul children need t'live as they should.

* * *

So, if y' know uv enny friend that has let his subskripshun lapse, won't y' kinda get after him 'n see that he renews? Y' could bring this littul item t' his attenshun 'n point out th' blank below 'n tell him if he can't send in th' full amount f'r a year, why send a half year's subskripshun, 'r even four months.

Don't f'rget now — I'm dependin' entirely on you t' help me out, 'cause that Schulte woman is on my tail 'n boy, oh, boy! If I don't produce subskripshuns pretty soon I'll be jus' one uv th' has-been's 'round here.

Well, if I servive, I'll be seein' y' nex' week.

S'long!

— Pete.

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Sanctity of human rights preferred to sanctity of property with Government's chief concern for the poor.

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Comment

$17-Billion—Just Like That!

THE BUDGET proposed by Mr. Roosevelt for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1942, represents an expected outlay of $17½-billion.

Some 62 per cent of this total is for national defense—soldiers, munitions, battleships, bombs and airplanes.

This does not represent an outlay for production. It does, however, represent an outlay for consumption or destruction.

Soldiers do not produce—although some are necessary.

Battleships do not produce, nor do tanks. They, too, are for destruction.

Mr. Roosevelt anticipates a revenue of approximately $9-billion.

While this expected revenue is $3-billion more than last year, it represents a national deficit of $8-billion for next year.

The President is too clever a politician to balance the budget immediately. In other words, he is too clever to cause national disaffection at this moment by imposing upon the taxpayers definite burdens to make up this loss of $8-billion.

It has always been the policy of warmongers to spend, spend and spend. When they depart from the scene of this life's political drama some practical-minded patriot will be found to face facts and clean up the mess—the financial mess—caused by his predecessor.

In ten years hence, some John Doe will be confronted with the proposition of tripling our taxes or with arranging for a Washington bonfire (bond-fire) in which all outstanding bills of debt — including Government bonds—will be burned.

Should he attempt to pay the bills or honor the bonds, he will be confronted with many conditions which are—to say the least—unfavorable.

For example, defense factories will be closed and idleness will be the lot of millions of our working men. They will have no money with which to pay taxes. In fact, since they must be fed, clothed and housed, they will present a problem for more expenditures which will increase our national debt.

The existing debt of more than $45-billion is not due entirely "to conditions not of our own making." We should not have a debt of anything like that size if the Roosevelt administration had not squandered opportunities, wisdom and wealth for the past eight years in indulging in expenditures now proven to have been unsound.

We will have a debt of approximately $100-billion if the national defense program is carried out to its logical conclusion, together with all aid to Britain.

Cloud-treading industrialists may rejoice momentarily at the profits about to be made.

Earth-treading industrialists recognize that their days are limited; for, ten years hence, both their profits and their capital will have been consumed.

Definitely, a new volume in the story of civilization is being prefaced by the budget speech delivered by Mr. Roosevelt to the Seventy-Seventh Congress. Rugged individualism is no longer worth a plugged nickel in the fields of finance and industry.

Democratic collectivism is here without any qualifications.

It appears to us that money, now the cheapest commodity in the world, will lose the values accredited to it in former days.

Ex-Ambassador Kennedy

EX-PRESIDENT Herbert Hoover recently said:

"It is a sign of a dangerously irresponsible mind in a nation when patriotic men are fiercely denounced as being the tools of Great Britain or pro-Nazi . . . I refer to two men—single-minded in their devotion to our country. They are William Allen White and Col. Lindbergh—both of whom have long since earned the gratitude of Americans."

In retrospect, we recall the calumnies, libels, vituperations and innuendos leveled at Father Coughlin, long before the people of America began to understand the whys and wherefores associated with the campaign.

Was not the Radio Priest among the first to attack Communism and Naziism?

Was he not among the first to point out the trend towards war?

Was not his voice raised almost ten years ago in pleading with his fellow countrymen to help undo the iniquities of the Peace of Versailles, which Treaty, if enforced, would be responsible for a second World War?

Did he not lay bare the activities of the international bankers who plundered Germany, Europe, Britain and the United States—as well as other nations?

And did he not coin the expression that capitalism was the right wing and international Communism the left wing of the same bird of prey?

Finally, did he not invite the good Jews of America to join with him in assailing Communism as well as Naziism?

And for all this he was tarred as a Nazi; paraded as an anti-Semite, castigated as an *ex-lex* priest, and complained of bitterly to his religious superiors upon whom pressure was brought to silence him.

* * *

Currents and cross-currents have muddied the thinking and judgment of the American public about this whole question of war.

The poor public labored under the confident impression that thousands of airplanes were being delivered to Britain, when as a matter of fact, according to a disclosure in the *Chicago Tribune*—a few more than 400 were delivered.

And these 400 are not up to the British fighting standard.

Meanwhile, the poor Englishmen who have been told by American orators that England is defending America, are learning to distrust us because of the meager assistance which we have given them in appreciation for that defense.

The result is that the entire world is in a state of confusion, of distrust and bewilderment.

Soon we shall find ourselves definitely isolated because of the name callers, the epithet coiners and the apostles of hate in our midst who will leave no stone unturned to destroy Germany no matter what the cost may be.

* * *

Thus, we turn to ex-Ambassador Kennedy who, more than any other man—more than the President of the United States and his close advisers—knows the real score of Europe's distress.

Writing in the *New York Herald-Tribune* (Jan. 6) Mark Sullivan says of Mr. Kennedy:

"There is another person, about whose case there is mystery which ought to be cleared up. Mr. Joseph P. Kennedy aided Mr. Roosevelt's first campaign in 1932; was made by Mr. Roosevelt, chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, chairman of the Maritime Commission and Ambassador to the Court of St. James'. Last November he returned to America and made a strong radio address in favor of the election of Mr. Roosevelt. On Dec. 8 Mr. Kennedy resigned, with a statement completely friendly to Mr. Roosevelt.

"Throughout all these activities, Mr. Roosevelt and the New Deal had no fault to find with Mr. Kennedy. Yet the moment after Mr. Kennedy resigned, there was unloosed upon him a deluge of derogation, some of which must either have originated within the Administration, or been inspired by it, or had its help.

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Comment

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"Among other journalists who sometimes reflect the inner New Deal, Messrs. Alsop and Kintner printed an article which, with intent to demean Mr. Kennedy, epitomized official communications that he, while Ambassador, had sent to the President and State Department. The article said that Mr. Kennedy's former associates were 'visibly relieved to be his associates no longer.' Finally, and appallingly, the article said that 'certain State Department officials are now reported to be investigating his doings.'

"The cause of this descent of derogation upon Mr. Kennedy is said to lie in certain views about the war and American policy, which he has stated privately, and in a newspaper interview which he said was unauthorized.

"Whatever views Mr. Kennedy has, he should feel free to give to the public directly, frankly and fully. The merit or direction of Mr. Kennedy's views are not so important as the public's right to know them—and his right to say them."

* * *

Mr. Kennedy owes it to the American people to speak out courageously and factually.

Silence on his part is no virtue.

Yet, when Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan proposed last week that Mr. Kennedy be called before the Foreign Relations Committee to give that body information on foreign affairs, there was a loud protest from New Deal partisans and interventionists.

Joseph P. Kennedy—now that the dust of propaganda is settling a bit—can make himself the most potent figure in the United States by disclosing the honest truth to his fellow citizens.

England Needs Roosevelt

THE Associated Press (William McGaffin, Jan. 6) is responsible for the unbelievable facts appearing in the following comment.

On reading it, one is constrained at least to surmise that the English laboring class is in a muddle; that English production of arms, munitions, battleships, etc., is lagging not only as a result of Nazi bombings, but, more particularly, as a result of disaffection in the ranks of English labor.

As we know, the English government — the British government, if you will — has the power to *commandeer* labor.

As Mr. McGaffin says: "John Englishman who works in the ladies' ready-to-wear at Selfridge's may find himself one day soon turning out carburetors in an airplane factory."

This power to commandeer was written on the statute books last May 22nd, to order any man to leave his job and busy himself with the essentials of defense.

Now here is fact Number 1: The Churchill government never has used this power — partly because, as the Associated Press dispatch discloses, "it is loaded with political dynamite."

The story continues: "Neutral observers say British labor already is restive. Labor Minister Ernest Bevin declares use of this measure would heighten that feeling and in the long run would bring no worthwhile speedup in production."

Indeed, Ernest Bevin is the virtual boss in England. Mr. Churchill appears to be nothing more than a giant colossus whose right foot rests on the crumbling promitory of plutocracy while his left foot is busy sinking in the sands of Marxian Socialism.

Between the giant's legs, Bevin rides to victory.

* * *

Fact Number 2 informs us that "the growing pile of unfilled munitions orders beside the numerous factories that are working below capacity has posed a grave problem."

There is widespread complaint because there are too many idle soldiers consuming food, time and material in the army — an army much too large for the work it is called upon to do at the moment.

Up to date only several thousand utility workers (fact No. 3) have been released from the army to help repair bomb damage and 15,000 unskilled laborers were commandeered to clear away bomb debris from London streets.

American reporters — according to the Associated Press story — often ask: "If there is a labor shortage, why are there still thousands of unemployed?"

As a matter of record (fact No. 4) there are approximately 750,000 unemployed men in England.

The exact government-released figure on this point was 766,845 as of last July.

Mr. McGaffin's article asks: "Why, for instance, are the jobless miners of South Wales not brought up to London to dig air-raid tunnels? Why are skilled war workmen whose factories have been bombed not moved to other areas at once instead of being kept on the dole in their own neighborhood until the factories can be put into running order again?"

And there is an opposition press in England which actually asks these questions (fact No. 5). Indeed, no Englishman has dared to enunciate what Mr. Roosevelt voiced in his address to the Seventy-Seventh Congress relative to the Government use of force to compel all people to coincide with Government views.

* * *

We find ourselves in America being bulldozed and cajoled into the theory of an "all out war" to save Britain when most British factories which began the war on an 8-hour production day still do not work the clock around (fact No. 6).

And there is a reason why British labor is on virtual strike against the all out war business. The Associated Press article confides that "One grievance of the British workman today is his weekly pay-check. The last official survey made last July showed that the war had boosted the average weekly wage of all workers in metal, engineering and shipbuilding industries from $12 to nearly $17."

However, the English laborer's salary has not kept pace with the war-invoked rise in the cost of living.

And strikes still threaten England's production as was indicated only a few days ago in the demonstration made by the Amalgamated Engineering Union.

* * *

SOCIAL JUSTICE has been intimating that all is not well in English labor; that a *revolution is in progress*—and we now use the present tense, not the future.

Mr. McGaffin puts his finger on the cause of it all in this so-called democracy of England. He says: "When you ask labor leaders in general what they want, they reply it is a 'better chance in the future of a caste-ridden land that draws most of its leaders from the two per cent of the population attending 'public' schools'." (Fact No. 7.)

Of course he refers to the aristocracy. And that word "caste" is the key-word to the whole situation.

All in all, Churchill's government is on the way out.

Bevin's government — a labor government — is on its way in.

It appears that Franklin D. Roosevelt may become the Prime Minister of Great Britain while Ernest Bevin will turn up as the Prime Minister of a reconstructed England!

The pity of the whole matter is that American labor and the public at large are swallowing the candy-coated pill of propaganda relative to this "all out war" business for Britain.

Possibly — if the Roosevelt Administration's policies are carried out as advertised — American labor will find itself fighting English labor. And American democracy will be labeling the new English democracy, which is about to arrive, with the odious words of "Nazi" or "Fascist."

The Associated Press account referred to above should be a stop, look and listen sign to the war-mongers in this country.

Lord Cranley and Shelters

THE United Press (Jan. 5) sends a story from London which discloses appalling conditions in the city's public air-raid shelters.

The story originated with Viscount Cranley, who is a member of the London County Council.

In a recent edition of the *Sunday Times* his Lordship summarized his official findings in the following paragraphs:

"The atmosphere is so foul-smelling and hot that it is noticeable at least six feet away from the entrances in the open street," he wrote.

"In many cases the floors are of earth with no covering, and in practically all cases no reasonable arrangements are made for clearing up litter. In many shelters little, if any, water is provided, in most cases in buckets. In one shelter I saw which was supposed to accommodate 5,000 persons the only water supply was in four two-gallon buckets.

"Lavatories consist of a row of cubicles, every ten or so labeled 'men' or 'women.' The entrances are in full view of the public, some tattered sacking the only screen. The interior consists of a bucket. In some shelters water closets are being installed, but authorities say it will take five or six months to complete the work.

"The three-tier wooden bunks have wire canvas bases. In several cases the top tier, having no sides, resulted in serious hospital cases when occupants fell four feet to the ground while turning in their sleep.

"No adequate medical equipment and personnel are provided. The greatest delay is due to a squabble between the few doctors willing to work voluntarily and those who wish a fee of one guinea ($4.20) a night.

"There is no segregation of the sexes. At present people are sleeping packed tightly together regardless of age and sex."

Comment

U.S. Catholics —British Victory

DR. FRANCIS E. MCMAHON, associate professor of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame, is reported by the *Chicago Daily News* as having called upon United States Catholics to go all out for Great Britain.

Dr. McMahon is one of 69 well-known Catholics who recently joined in an appeal for all possible material aid to Britain.

But Dr. McMahon, it should be said, does not "represent the Catholic Church."

In supporting his viewpoint the eminent gentleman said:

"The present conflict is not just a war for markets and territory. It is a battle for the possession of the human soul. We are threatened by a sinister power which strikes directly at the moral foundations of our civilization.

"Our President has long known the nature of the destructive forces at work. Let us not weaken his efforts to meet the crisis by talks about 'a negotiated peace' with governments that have demonstrated themselves time and again to be devoid of moral principle.

"The sooner Americans realize that they are at grips with a world revolution which threatens to subvert all they hold dear in cultural and religious values the better for their own security," he declared.

* * *

Possibly, Dr. McMahon is idealizing, forgetting or being ignorant of what has happened in England during the last six months.

The old England has gone. A new England is being born.

Within a short time it will be evident to all — and admitted even by the propagandists — that the new England has dedicated herself to collectivism.

After centuries of oppression by the plutocrats, the masses of the English laboring class have risen under the leadership of Ernest Bevin.

Furthermore, these masses are not addicted to religion as Dr. McMahon would define religion.

Fewer than 20 per cent of England's population are church-goers.

This population has had inflicted upon it a State-controlled religion whose main purpose was to uphold the cause of the Crown rather than the cause of God.

Little by little, defection set in.

Step by step, the people of once merry England retreated from a political religion until, at the moment, there are practically as many Roman Catholics in England as there are Anglicans.

* * *

Will Dr. McMahon, within the next six months, advocate his theory of all aid for England when he will discover that England will have succumbed to the collectivism which is about to overrun all Europe?

And what does Dr. McMahon plan to say to the 48-million Catholics living under the Third German Reich?

If the Catholics of Germany, together with the Protestants resident there, are not capable of curing the ills of their own government, the plutocratic Catholics of the United States can offer little assistance.

These words should not be taken as any defense of the German government. It is high-time, however, that Dr. McMahon, and others, *begin defending the United States by curing the basic evils which are rampant in our own midst.*

And it might be philosophically sound for the professor to recollect that his words bring no comfort to the millions of German, Italian and Irish Catholics who are his fellow citizens.

These are times when a Catholic priest, above all, should preach the gospel of peace, remembering the words of Pius XII, *"If war, all may be lost."*

It would be difficult for the old-fashioned forebears of Dr. McMahon to dovetail his preachments of "all aid for Britain" with the gentle admonitions of the Prince of Peace, Who chided the impetuous Peter, bidding him to put up his sword.

Dr. O'Brien Calls for Action

A FELLOW professor of Dr. McMahon's at the University of Notre Dame — Dr. John A. O'Brien — is, on the other hand, the outspoken advocate of a peace crusade.

Addressing a huge rally of the Holy Name Societies of the Lafayette deanery, in Memorial Hall at Purdue University recently, Dr. O'Brien called for a million telegrams urging President Roosevelt and Congress not to abandon hope of bringing about a negotiated peace in Europe — *and not to repeat this country's tragic mistake of 1917.*

The Most Rev. John Francis Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne, was guest of honor at the rally.

"Let us mobilize the millions of our members," Dr. O'Brien said, "in a mighty crusade to keep America out of the war, and out of all the steps which lead inevitably to it.

"Let the members of our organization from coast to coast send a deluge of a million telegrams to the President and Congress begging them in the gentle name of the Prince of Peace not to repeat the tragic mistake of 1917 and send millions of our boys to slaughter on the battlefields of Europe.

"Let us entreat our governmental officials not to make the mistake of saying that the day of reconciliation, of a negotiated peace between European nations, is past.

"Unless we implement our prayers by a deluge of telegrams which will rise like thunder above the shouting of the war interventionists — the 10 per cent minority — we shall witness once again the tragedy of having the masses of our people led like sheep to the slaughter."

Dr. O'Brien said the greatest contribution America could make to the preservation of Christian civilization would be to "use her good offices and her great moral influence to bring the warring nations to the conference table to lay the foundations of a just and lasting peace."

"The greatest mistake that could befall America and the civilized world," he asserted, "would be the adoption by our Government of the attitude that the European war is irreconcilable through conference of warring nations.

"To scorn to use her good offices in the cause of peace, to cease to search for ways of bringing the belligerents to the conference table to ascertain their minimum peace terms is to fall into the same mistake made by the diplomats of Europe — the mistake of seeking to solve their problems by seeing which side could destroy more buildings and slaughter more of the masses of the people who were not even consulted.

"That spells the bankruptcy of statesmanship, the outlawry of reason and conscience, the enthronement of might as the arbiter of right, the negation of religion, and the crucifixion of mankind."

New York Rally Feb. 2

THE MONSTER rally to be conducted by the *Parents Defense Fund Committee* will be held at Columbus Club, Knights of Columbus Bldg., No. 1 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn, on February 2.

Speakers will include Judge Leo Healy, chief of defense counsel for the young men recently acquitted in the so-called Christian Front sedition conspiracy; and the Rev. Dr. Edward Lodge Curran, president of the International Catholic Truth Society. Mr. Bernard T. D'Arcy is chairman.

Contributions from those who cannot attend the rally may be sent to the committee's office, in care of Judge Healy, 16 Court Street, Brooklyn.

Blood Business a la 1941

ACCORDING to an Associated Press dispatch (January 3) Secretary Stimson submitted a detailed report to Congress of the large quantities of surplus war supplies — tanks, planes, munitions — that the War Department sold to the United States Steel Company last year, presumably for resale to Britain — and some small quantity to other countries.

All in all, $22,929,438 worth of supplies were sold abroad — supplies which Mr. Stimson said had cost our Government $59,853,179.

Government supplies sold to the United States Steel for resale abroad included 212 six-ton tanks at $240 each; 945,000 .30 caliber rifles; 17,716,500 pounds of TNT, 83,581 machine guns; 2,245 75-millimeter field guns, etc., etc.

And this does not include airplanes, bombers, blueprints and obsolete warships.

Thus, the blood business is going merrily along on the basis of approximately 45 cents on the dollar.

In other words, the American taxpayer who purchases $1 worth of war material is selling it to England for 45 cents.

And somebody is making the profit.

The somebody is not the American citizen.

The somebody is not the American Government; the somebody definitely is the original manufacturer and coupon clipper.

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Diplomatic Brickbats

BERLIN and Ottawa are engaged in hurling verbal bombs upon each other — brickbats, in the language of John Public.

Berlin, according to an Associated Press dispatch, reports that Canada could "never fill the place of the British Isles as the center of the British Empire" after the war on the isles has been ended.

The Third Reich economic expert said: "The English army can not go to Canada nor can England's population of 45-million. Nor can her complicated industries simply be exported.

"Moreover, Canada has no munitions industry to speak of."

Commenting on the comment, Canadian government officials said: "Let Hitler win the battle of Britain first. Then we will see what part Canada can play in the reorganization of the empire."

To date, no belligerent has used gas bombs of a lethal nature. However, the gas bombs of a rhetorical nature, such as those indicated above, have reached a stage of perfection never dreamed of in the first World War.

Sig. Mussolini's balcony; Herr Hitler's beer hall; Mr. Churchill's dugout; Mr. Roosevelt's fireside — all have been sources of devastating gas attacks to which a war-weary world has grown accustomed.

Seriously, it is possible, if not probable, that this coming Spring will witness a real gas attack.

War knows no ethics, no morals.

War is wedded to death and destruction by policies both foul and fair.

And international law exists only in the mind, not in reality.

Consequently, when armies and their leaders are fighting for their national existence, or for their enemy's annihilation, there is no limitation to horrors enacted.

By Spring, therefore, it is possible that 10,000 German airplanes will darken the skies above London. Flares will be dropped upon a nerve-wracked city. Then, time bombs will fall to explode their shocking, burning gases. And, finally, with millions of distraught, helpless, human beings searching for relief where there is no relief, thousands of incendiary bombs will be dumped upon the already scarred cities to wreak their devastation and ruin.

Man's inhumanity to man will reach its climax of atrocities before this second World War will have terminated.

And to think of it — Christian countries, dedicated to the gospel of love, are the participants in this tragedy!

"Whatsoever you do unto these, the least of My little ones, you do unto Me," was the gospel preached in every city and hamlet of Germany by Boniface and his successors; in every city and hamlet of England by Augustine and his successors.

And the children of those to whom this gospel was preached, according to the logic of Christianity, are busied doing to Christ the very things they think they are doing to each other.

One can understand how Mohammedan, Jew and pagan can entertain the thought that Christianity has failed.

It is difficult to argue with them, we confess.

Nevertheless, we assert that Christianity has not failed any more than the *Ten Commandments* have failed.

It is Christian leadership, and Christian followership, which stand indicted before the bar of God's Justice.

In plainer language, Christians have failed — Christ has not failed.

And the penalty for the failure of Christians? Yes; there is a penalty.

Verily, too many of us have lacked that faith measured by a grain of mustard seed. Too many of us refused to become pilgrims seeking, first, the kingdom of God and His Justice.

In days to come when Christians will be persecuted and hounded as violently as they were in days gone by, let those of us who remain be not too anxious to condemn the soldiers who ply the scourge, fasten the nails and secure the crown of thorns upon the brow of Christ's Bride.

"Father, forgive them for they know not what they do," was Christ's petition.

May it be ours also; for persecution certainly will come as the armies of anti-Christ and those of Christ meet in mortal combat.

Hate against love; flesh against spirit; error against truth; earth against heaven; despair against hope!

Of these things we have been forewarned both in the Gospel of Christ and in the *Apocalypse*.

And may we conclude this comment by reminding you: *"What doth it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his soul?"*

Did the Smear Smear?

APPROXIMATELY one year ago seventeen young men — styled Christian Fronters, according to the Communist and the Jewish and the subservient press — were apprehended, having been charged with seditious crimes.

The United States District Court elected to withdraw prosecution *(nolle prossed)*, thereby directly clearing the victims of the charges framed against them.

As an aftermath, no apology is forthcoming from Walter Winchell.

No apology is forthcoming from the press which printed untrue and synthetic pictures related to the seventeen young men.

No apology is forthcoming from those whose main purpose was to blacken the name of the Christian Front and its sponsors.

Admittedly, the smear has smeared; the lie has been believed.

And all this, despite the action of the United States District Court.

What effect this persecution and prosecution has had upon the members of the Christian Front as of one year ago, can not be gauged at the moment.

Assuredly thousands of erstwhile members are now entertaining the thought that, if Christians band together in a movement to stem the crimson tide of Communism, together with the brown tide of Naziism, they will become the targets of more reprisals by those who were potent enough in the first instance to manhandle the majesty of Government for the accomplishment of their nefarious designs.

It is regrettable, in this connection, to recollect that when President Roosevelt, both in his recent fireside chat and in his message to the Seventy-Seventh Congress, damned and indicted dictators and aggressors, *he studiously exempted the name and the aggressions of Josef Stalin.*

Was that significant, or was it a mere "happenstance?"

Whatever the answer, we are reluctant to believe that the aggression perpetrated against the "not guilty," so-called members of the Christian Front, has driven the entire movement into the caverns of a modern catacomb.

Catacombs are associated with Nero. And the name "Nero" is associated with the assassination of Christians!

Comment

The Favored Aggressor

READING scores of newspapers every day, and thousands upon thousands of words of editorial opinion and comment, one's reward is to come upon something like Mr. Westbrook Pegler's column (Jan. 9), copyrighted by the United Features Syndicate.

We quote, with commending comment, from Mr. Pegler:

"Our President is a busy man, with headaches enough to start the seams of the Capitol dome, so that which I am about to say is tossed into the discussion with no flippant or nagging intent but only to recapture a page which apparently blew off the rack during both of his recent orations on dictators — the dirty dogs — and what they can't do to us.

"In neither of these state papers did I detect any reference to Josef Stalin, whose sanction, it may be remembered, was the go-ahead which started the present World War and who has been just as guilty as Adolf Hitler, though in a less spectacular and perhaps smarter way, in the matter of consuming little nations which were minding their own business and hoping nobody would notice them.

"That Stalin is a dictator who denies religious, intellectual and political freedom to his subjects is a proposition that doesn't even require discussion.

"Certainly it would not take five minutes to produce, out of the newspaper files of the time, proof that *Hitler started this war only after he had received Stalin's okay* in the form of an economic and military conspiracy against the free people of the world.

* * *

"Stalin knew and intended that his treaty with der fuehrer would start the Germans rolling into Poland in that terrible hour which all the world so long had lived in fear of.

"Soon thereafter Stalin's men shoved into Poland to a line which had been agreed upon with Hitler, and when their armies met, Poland was no more.

"Stalin, by agreement with Hitler, then spread out over the Baltic country and, in a move which all but the few Communists among us regarded as a terribly wicked aggression against a small, clean, virtuous nation, all but killed Finland.

"Morally there is no difference between Hitler and Stalin, and in their attitude toward the United States they have been about alike, too, having both maintained conspiracies here against our peace and safety, financed and directed from their respective capitals while they were making a pretense of diplomatic friendship.

* * *

"If there is any difference at all it is in favor of Hitler and against Stalin, because we had had trouble with the Muscovites before and, as a condition of the resumption of diplomatic relations in 1933, made them promise, in so many words, to leave off revolutioneering in our midst.

"Having given that promise, Stalin went right ahead with his internal anti-American conspiracies under Earl Browder and similar traitors, and this activity continues today.

"In spite of my wish to get unified and wholly credulous and co-operative, I am nevertheless suspicious of this omission of all mention of Stalin and Russia among the enemies of the American way, because — no kidding — New Dealers, from the very beginning, have seemed to think that Stalinism or Muscovism was in some way less horrible than Hitlerism."

Firemen for the Fireside Chat

ACCORDING to Joseph Alsop and Robert Kintner, Washington columnists, the President was not alone in composing the famous "all out" fireside chat whose rhetorical flames and cracklings were seen and heard round the world.

Alsop and Kintner said:

"When the memoranda were in, the President followed his usual procedure, dictating a first draft, and then consulting a committee composed of his senior amanuensis, Judge Samuel Rosenman, the last of the old brain trust; his friend, Harry L. Hopkins; his chief private adviser on foreign policy, Ambassador William C. Bullitt, and Steve Early from his secretarial staff. These men made suggestions and tried their hands at new drafts."

It appears that Judge Samuel Rosenman is the Colonel House of this regime.

No further comment is necessary for the initiated.

Must We Be Sissies?

"DEPUTY CONSTABLES who confiscated the small-caliber rifles of fifteen young men and women who were playfully potting floating bottles and cans on the pellucid bosom of the broad Missouri below Sugar Creek, may have been doing their duty as provided by law; but a law long ago forgotten.

"Since when in this sovereign state has it been necessary to take out a hunting license in order to practice shooting at a knot in a tree?" asks the *Kansas City Star*.

"Did the long rifle heroes of King's Mountain, the minie ball enthusiasts of the Manassas, the Krag-Jorgenson experts of San Juan Hill, and the Springfield marksmen of St. Mihiel get that way by sitting at home and twiddling their thumbs?

"No, by the shades of Leather Stocking, Davy Crockett, and 'Mile Shot' Billy Dixon! Teaching the young idea how to shoot was one of the cardinal duties of every generation of parents. We carved a nation out of a wilderness, because our boys — and sometimes our girls — could hold dead center on a redskin, or a catamount, or a grizzly bear, and 'make 'em come.'

"Of course something should be done about stray lead which occasionally annoys a pensive heifer in yon dreamy pasture across the river, but as for the desire to sharpen proficiency with the rifle, we're all for it.

"Marksmanship in this nation has shown a terrific decline — with the exception, perhaps, of the disgruntled wives who always seem to hit target center in shooting a resented husband.

"The time may come when anyone who can hit what he shoots at will be mighty useful. In the name of national defense why discourage marksmanship practice?"

Gov. Lehman and Industry

GOVERNOR HERBERT H. LEHMAN of New York, in a letter to William S. Knudsen, production chief of the National Defense Advisory Commission, has asked the commission's support for a plan to have all manufacturers of "non-essential" goods *convert their plants immediately for the production of materials for defense.*

The governor, according to the *New York Herald Tribune*, charged that some manufacturers "do not fully appreciate" the urgency of the situation.

"The full utilization of our existing industrial facilities throughout the country will obviously speed up and increase present output of material so essential to our national defense," the governor wrote. "It will also avoid creation of unnecessary facilities with the consequent adverse effect upon conditions in the post-emergency period.

"Although some temporary sacrifices may be called for," he said, "industry is bound to benefit in the long run. There will be far less dislocation in the fields of industry and labor if the change from commercial to defense production is made in an orderly way now, rather than suddenly and with insufficient planning at some future time."

Saying that "available labor in scattered sections" could be better utilized under the plan, Governor Lehman expressed the belief that both industry and labor would benefit in the long run through the building up of a "reservoir of demands" for commercial goods, the production of which would be suspended temporarily. It would, he said, probably take up the slack "that will in all probability come in the post-emergency period."

* * *

Possibly, the New York Governor is simply ignorant of what is transpiring in South America.

Possibly, he is not informed about conditions in the industrial ranks in England.

And, possibly, he does know what he is talking about in so far as he wants workers in the factories of the United States of America, as well as the factories themselves, to be regimented in a Lehman-ized State.

This policy of "all out for Britain" is an American-born policy.

It *is not a British policy.*

Ponder upon the fact that Great Britain embraces hundreds of millions of persons—five times as many as are resident under the Stars and Stripes.

Yet, Great Britain, including South Africa, India and other colonies (euphoniously called "commonwealths"), has not gone all out for herself.

This was evidenced following the transfer of fifty destroyers from the United States to Britain; for it was learned that Britain had not a sufficient number of men capable of manning the obsolete destroyers, *some of which are still idle waiting for a personnel.*

If Britain was not able to conduct a war with her own wealth and her own manpower, why should she declare a war, hoping for the United States to untangle the Lion's tail from the international wringer in which it finds itself?

Comment

Is Peace-Seeking Cowardice?

WHAT is there un-American in wanting to bring about peace?

What is *cowardly* about a movement for peace?

What is *immoral* in such hopes and prayers and wishes?

These pertinent questions are asked by the *Catholic Review* of Baltimore, Maryland.

"Even the President in his speech emphasized his hopes to keep out of war," the *Review* continues, adding:

"Mayor LaGuardia and some others do not speak President Roosevelt's way. Mayor LaGuardia, long the admirer of the Soviets, denounced William Allen White, because Mr. White says he hopes to keep us out of war.

"Mr. White is doing everything to have this country give aid to England in these desperate days but he says he wants to see America kept out of war. For this he is condemned by Mayor LaGuardia.

"Who is striving more for peace than our Holy Father Pope Pius XII? Surely in his consecration to the service of mankind, in his love for souls, in his love of humanity, in his spirituality, in his devotion to the cause of civilization, he is not inferior to such arrogant commentators as the Dorothy Thompsons, the Kaltenborns, the Alsops, and the Kintners, with their self-investiture of supreme wisdom.

"And yet the very men and women who are being subjected to insults and objurgation by editorial nitwits, by cartoonists and others who cannot call their journalistic souls their own, are standing for the very things for which Pius XII and other great leaders of the world are striving."

* * *

And the courageous Baltimore editor goes on:

"We have yet to meet among those who are asking for peace with honor, 'peace with justice,' one person who will work for peace at the price of having Hitler hold on to Czechoslovakia, Poland, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, France, Belgium and the other countries of which he has taken possession.

"How comes it, that the radio commentators and editorial writers and columnists who are denouncing the peace element in this country, seem perfectly content to let Russia hold on to Finland and other countries which she has seized? They are even eager to have England form an alliance with this same rapacious, bloody Russia.

"The very persons who would like to see peace brought about, with honor and justice, are the very ones who have protested against religious and racial persecution, the while their most vocal denunciators have lined up in the past with the Soviet, the German, the Mexican persecutors of the Catholic Church in recent years.

"It may be that Germany and Italy are eager to find a way to end the war. It may be that they have no such eagerness. It may be that any attempt to suggest such a peace would hurt the cause of humanity in general and this country in particular. If that be so, let the American people be told the truth.

"Our people have not been taken completely into the confidence of those who are in power in this country. There has been stampeding by the propagandists. The Gallup Poll appears to be doing considerable propagandizing. But, making all concessions to the Kaltenborns, the Thompsons and others who are trying to run this country, there are millions of intelligent persons in the United States who know how to think and act — always for the best interests of humanity and their own land. They will not be shirkers; they will under no condition be false to America. They will not let her freedom and her safety be endangered by any foe.

* * *

"In one respect, we believe, the President could have improved his speech," the *Review* asserts. "He was right in denouncing all subversive elements. He was right in denouncing all who may hypocritically pretend they want peace, the while they essay to serve foreign governments.

"On this point may we add that such elements are not confined solely to the side of Hitler. Many appear to be definitely on the side of Great Britain. There are indeed sympathizers with Great Britain who want us, willy-nilly, to enter into war. They say so.

"We believe the people of this country, in an overwhelming majority, admire the courage which the English people have shown in the attacks made on their homeland. The English have demonstrated in these terrible months that they are brave and love freedom.

"But we do not believe that even a great minority of the people in this country want us to enter the war simply for the sake of demonstrating friendship for Britain.

* * *

"The people of this country will defend this country even should it prove necessary to go to war.

"They will fight for democracy.

"They are opposed to the things for which Hitler and Mussolini and other rulers stand. They are opposed to racism and all tyranny.

"Our people want this country to be thoroughly prepared to defend itself. They do not think it is prepared now. They believe there are some who must assume a terrible responsibility for the failure of this country to begin its defense preparations many months ago.

"They are opposed to all subversive forces.

"They are opposed to toleration of such forces whether they be the Nazi Bunds or the Reds who have so long been coddled and who are being coddled and admired by so many Americans today, including the officers and members of some of our youth organizations."

Overlooking the Soviets?

"IN THE STORM of excitement which can easily carry us into war, it is opportune to ask why there has been no definition of policy toward the Union of Socialist and Soviet Republics," says the *Florida Catholic*, official publication of the diocese of St. Augustine.

"For many months, the attitude of the United States toward the Axis powers has been a matter of public record. It is one of open hostility . . . America is committed to the defeat of Nazi and Fascist totalitarianism. The material resources of the nation are enlisted against the dictatorships in Berlin and Rome. That is official.

"Under the circumstances, it is fair to inquire where we stand with respect to Soviet Russia.

"The Kremlin in Moscow shelters a despot who lives and rules by force alone. Violence has been the sole religion and creed of Josef Stalin. Murder has been his ordinary weapon. As to his aggressions, testimony can be taken from the people of Poland, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Esthonia, Roumania and China.

"With respect to the last-named country, too many Americans forget that in the past 20 years the armies of the Soviet warlord have effected a species of 'peaceful penetration' of Outer Mongolia and Turkestan.

"Communist battalions are ready to play the role of traitor in a number of other Chinese territories. Nor is Stalin averse to adventures against British India, Iraq and Iran. With a caution which at times verges on cowardice, this modern Ghengis Khan is carving out for himself new empires both in Asia and Europe.

"The Turks, on guard at the Golden Horn, realize that the sword of aggression has a sharp double-edge.

* * *

"When will all the people of the Americas awaken to the danger presented by the Communist International Trojan Horse in the Western Hemisphere?

"In this connection, it may be useful to recall the speech delivered by Stalin's mouthpiece, President Mikhail I. Kalinin of the Supreme Council of the Soviet Union, who, on November 30, 1940, declared that 'Red soldiers and sailors are not only the members of a great army and navy but also fighters of the most revolutionary fighting forces in the world's history.'

"Why not take the Soviet official at his word?

"The 'most revolutionary fighting forces in the world's history' are active in every city, town and hamlet of the American Republics.

"These soldiers of the New Marxist Order are revolutionary and atheistic to the core. Their crusade is directed principally against the religious and spiritual elements in man, as the late Pius XI pointed out in the *'Divini Redemptoris.'*

"His Holiness, Pius XII, has likewise exposed the dialectical materialism of Moscow.

"Other religious leaders, including all the members of the American Hierarchy, have warned that Marxism is more than a philosophy of death; that it is a militant campaign which knows no Armistice, even during the Christmastide.

"The most significant feature of Comrade Kalinin's declaration was his repetition of

(Continued on Page 12)

Oil Is 'Dynamite'

Senate Investigation to Air Davis 'Deals'

SENATOR Burton K. Wheeler's promised investigation of William Rhodes Davis, American oil merchant whose reputed deals and peace maneuvers with Germany have created a first-rate press sensation, may — if actually permitted to take place — produce some startling disclosures.

If it is thorough, the probe may well involve one of the New Deal's own staunchest Senate adherents — Senator Joseph F. Guffey of Pennsylvania!

Further, it may throw considerable light on the Administration's part, if any, in the expropriation of American oil by Mexico and in the sale of that oil to Germany prior to the outbreak of the European war.

More than a month before the Davis story "broke" in the newspapers — in our edition of last November 18, to be exact — SOCIAL JUSTICE printed the information about Davis' Mexican-German oil manipulations, in which Senator Guffey was implicated as a participant.

Jay Cooke, unsuccessful Republican opponent of Senator Guffey in the last election, charged that he "could prove that Hitler had been started on his conquest of Europe with the help of Mexican oil" obtained through the connivance of U. S. officialdom.

It carried the candidate's threat that if elected he would institute a Senatorial investigation into all the Washington connections with Mexico's expropriation of American and British oil properties, and the barter sale to Germany, in the 18 months preceding the war, of more than 10-million barrels of oil.

SOCIAL JUSTICE asserted:

"Thus, the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo axis received more than 21-million barrels of oil from British and American oil properties, confiscated by a Communistic regime, which has been coddled and subsidized and protected by influential New Dealers at Washington."

The November article continued: "Shortly before Hitler invaded Poland, Americans discovered that Mexico was shipping expropriated oil to Germany and Italy.

"At that time Senator Styles Bridges demanded an inquiry into the situation; but his request for an inquiry was buried in the oblivion of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"Mexico, in exchange, received thousands of tons of German steel which canny Mexicans had the effrontery to try to sell to America at prices below the cost of production for American steel.

"Thus, we see how America subsidized the Cardenas government through the premium buying of silver; Cardenas confiscated American oil properties and sold the oil to Germany; Germany gave in exchange steel, and Cardenas tries to sell the steel to Americans . . . and, saps that we are, they all but got away with it!

"Thus, Americans pay three ways to enrich everyone but ourselves in these international transactions.

"The Mexican oil, was, reportedly, sold to Germany through the offices and efforts of William Rhodes Davis, New York broker, whose operations constitute a stranger than fiction career.

"Senator Guffey of Pennsylvania, New Deal brain-truster and Mr. Cooke's opponent in the Senatorial campaign, testified under oath that in 1937 — before the Mexican government confiscated the oil properties of British and American concerns — that he had visited Mexico City with Mr. Davis and Walter A. Jones, Pittsburgh business man who was identified as being in the employ of Mr. Davis.

"In a deposition Senator Guffey said that when he paid a call to President Cardenas he *had 'discussed the business' on which Messrs. Davis and Jones had gone to Mexico City.*

"Six months later, the confiscation and expropriation took place by the executive order of President Cardenas, and Mr. Davis was given the Mexican contract to act as sales agent and broker for the oil taken from the seized properties.

"In Mr. Davis' New York office he displays prominently a photograph of President Roosevelt with the inscription and autograph: *'To my friend Major Davis — Franklin D. Roosevelt.'*

"Mr. Davis, furthermore, is one of the 35 underwriters of the Hyde Park Library, which is to preserve the official Roosevelt papers for posterity."

* * *

Now the New Deal pro-British interventionists are howling "Nazi tool" at Davis.

They accuse him of sponsoring a Hitler-dictated peace proposal in October, 1939, and of feeding the German war machine with Mexican oil which he sold on commission.

Where does Senator "Joe" Guffey come in?

What about the New Deal politicians who, according to Davis, were "fully informed" of his international oil transactions?

What about the Standard Oil and the Shell Oil companies, both of which sold oil to Germany in much greater quantities?

Mr. Davis denies any sinister motives in his oil deals or the peace proposal he carried to President Roosevelt. He protests that he has sold Germany no oil since the war began. He maintains that in submitting Germany's tentative peace plan to the President he was motivated solely by patriotic and humanitarian desires.

In a statement to the press he declares that he was opposed to a peace "on Hitler's terms" but does favor a negotiated peace "before the men, women and children of the world are debauched and demoralized; before the wealth and treasures of the world are destroyed, and before human rights and liberties are lost forever."

"Apart from these humanitarian reasons," he said, "my interest in peace and in keeping the United States out of European entanglements is based upon the profound conviction that if this war is not soon determined, we shall have in this country that same system of deprivation and regimentation, that same loss of personal liberty and free enterprise that prevails in the totalitarian countries today."

* * *

Verne Marshall, Iowa editor, head of the *No Foreign Wars Committee*, unwittingly started the Davis rumpus when he announced that Davis, whom he described as a committee supporter, had presented Hitler's peace terms to Mr. Roosevelt back in October, 1939, but that no action was taken on them.

In the torrent of criticism which followed Marshall's disclosure, Davis was assailed as an "appeaser" with a huge financial stake in a Nazi victory. His oil deals were cited.

To clear his name Mr. Davis appealed in a letter to Senator Wheeler for a complete hearing before the special Senate subcommittee designated to investigate interference with national defense. Wheeler is chairman of the group.

An ardent isolationist, the Montana Senator would doubtless be pleased to discover whether the administration had deliberately ignored or side-tracked German proposals for a just peace early in the war.

An interesting by-product of the Davis investigation may grow out of his expected testimony before a special Washington grand jury which is investigating 1940 campaign expenditures.

Probers wish to question the oil operator concerning large contributions to the 1936 Democratic campaign and the 1940 Republican campaign. The former, it was reported, were made in the name of Walter A. Jones, Davis' Pittsburgh associate, and were said to have been charged off to British oil firms with which Davis was then affiliated.

This lends further credence to the belief that if the political and financial didoes of Mr. Davis are completely exposed, many New Dealers will experience some uncomfortable moments.

Oil, we repeat, is "dynamite!"

'Ingratitude'

THOSE idle rich who go to Florida and live on the tax-free income from their United States Government bonds have been denounced by Henry Morgenthau, Secretary of the Treasury, for the unpatriotic cunning which, he said, enabled them to avoid contributions to the United States Treasury.

"That," says the *New York Sun*, "ought to make their faces redder than the Florida sun will.

"Weren't they depraved to fall for the lure of bonds offered them for subscription by Secretary Morgenthau, bonds that the Treasury was careful to point out in printed circulars as being exempt from taxation?

"To rub it in further, many of those economic royalists were so ungrateful as to campaign against the third term, and even to insinuate that the high, wide and handsome profligacy of the New Dealers eventually might blight the credit of the United States.

"Not so, proclaimed the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, for did not the rush of capital into Government bonds conclusively prove that the credit of the Government had never in history been higher?"

On the Economic Front

The Showdown Is Nearer

IT IS difficult for an older person to conceive of the American system of private capitalism breaking down, observes William J. Baxter, widely known economic writer and lecturer and head of the International Economic Research Bureau.

"The financial policies which were advisable during the period of our national youth and growth are, of course, completely unsuited for a period of national breakdown," he says in a recent bulletin.

This expert then cites the following policies and factors as dominant in the period of national youth:

"(1) We had a constantly increasing population, pumping new blood into the system each year and assuring us of a constantly expanding market.

"(2) During such a period the rule of success is to be a 'national bull' and to hold common stocks and properties throughout even periods of depression.

"(3) The ownership of large amounts of fixed property was an excellent asset.

"(4) To have foreign assets was practically the same as having them here.

"(5) There was a free labor market where a business man could hire what labor he needed based on the supply and demand for labor.

"(6) The courts were generally favorable to private property and the rights of the individual as they always are during the period of growth of a country.

"(7) The first generation in the period of growth, is in control of the bulk of the businesses of the country.

"(8) The producers of raw material for industry had to sell in a free market and could not withhold supplies or have the national treasury help them.

"(9) The bulk of the population was satisfied to be workers and did not care to go to colleges or join the 'white collar class.'

"(10) An increased population, increased growth of the country and increased foreign trade meant a constant demand for new capital and as a result, capital was paid a good return for its hire."

* * *

"As contrasted with these," Mr. Baxter adds, "let us consider the financial policies and important factors during a period of breakdown as given below:

"(1) The first sign of breakdown throughout history is the failure of agriculture, that is the failure of farmers to be self-supporting. With the drift of farm population to the cities during the '20s, and the great number of farm foreclosures during the '30s, it became evident that America's agriculture was no longer self-sustaining and that large subsidies from the Federal purse were necessary to keep it going, subsidies which have since totalled billions of dollars.

"(2) The second sure sign of breakdown is a change in the attitude of the courts toward business, with court control changing to the anti-business group, a point already reached in America.

"(3) The third force is the inability to compete in free international markets due to high costs.

"(4) A point is reached in the development of a country where an increased percentage of the population is in the aged group, making each producer support an increased number of non-producers.

"(5) Such large subsidies to the farmers; those on relief in the cities, and in other directions, that taxes become confiscatory. During 1941 it is probable the taxes will come to 30 per cent of the total national income of the country; or well beyond the breaking point for private capitalism.

"(6) A situation where all risk is assumed by the owner of a business inasmuch as he has not only prohibitive taxes but no longer can deal in either a free labor market or a free raw material market. Labor becomes organized and has excessive political control and the producers of raw materials can exact non-competitive prices by having the government support commodity markets.

"(7) Saving is discouraged by not only the high fixed cost of living such as rents and taxes but by the existence of artificially controlled low interest rates.

"(8) Inability to sell equities because of the unusual risk that investors shun to take.

"(9) Large amounts of cash necessary for operations due to high taxation which is payable in cash only.

"(10) Excessive government regulation in all phases of business.

* * *

"Largely because most of the forces working for breakdown do not begin to operate at the same time but come on gradually, the average individual has failed to see the accumulated effect of them all in making for certain collapse of private capitalism in this country.

"The more I study the reason for this, the more I am convinced from experience that to have accumulated capital in the past, one had to have a specialized mind, for specialists have been the ones most handsomely rewarded. But, to retain capital in a period such as this, one had to have a broad comprehensive mind to appreciate, that the system under which the money was made no longer functions.

"For example, who but a child can believe that any progress will be made in solving the unemployment problem under the rules of the game as now practiced?

"What chance is there for the budget becoming balanced instead of becoming more and more unbalanced?

"The truth is, the disease must run its course until there is no more 'fat' for the non-producers to live on.

"In Wall Street today it is generally realized that the 'game is up.' But this realization did not come in anticipation of the present hard times in the financial area, but only after the horse had left the stable.

* * *

"Sometime back," the speaker concluded, "I came to the conclusion that a basic redistribution of wealth was coming in the United States, and that a new group was going to take over ownership of a large part of the business, real estate and financial institutions of the country . . .

"If you will study the burdens which American industry is now carrying, and the additional burdens which it must carry in 1941, it is clearly evident that it means but one thing: an even more serious confiscation of industry than we have yet seen taking place on all sides in the field of real estate!

"There is something about the human mind that always likes to postpone unpleasant developments," philosophizes this observer.

"For example, a few years ago I stated that a change in the balance of power was coming in Europe and that England, as we know her, was absolutely through. Hundreds of individuals agreed that England was dying, but thought that the process would stretch over a long period of years and that no world power would have the courage as yet to attack England and shorten the period of readjustment.

"Since then we have seen England attacked and her weakness exposed to all and none but the most confirmed optimists believe that England has the slightest chance of winning the war.

* * *

"In the same way the older generation would like to believe that the collapse of American industry is going to be stretched over another several years at least.

"I am afraid that this wishful thinking means that a great many of the pioneer builders of the country are going broke in the not distant future.

"Far from there being any evidence that the velocity of domestic breakdown was slowing up, every development of recent months indicates that we are 'going like h—' toward the showdown!

"President Roosevelt was not far off when he told his friends at Warm Springs that he would be 'back in the Spring if the world survived'!"

8-Cent Meals in N.Y.

"IT WAS a striking evidence of the increasing hunger among the people when a widowed mother of two children attempted to commit suicide at the Mayor's office the other day because she was denied the right to relief," says another "straw-in-the-wind" editorial in the *Daily Worker*.

"Yet the Board of Estimate on the same day cold-bloodedly cut relief appropriations for the next six months by $1,362,666, and 10,000 needy are to be kicked off the relief rolls.

"At the same time Mayor LaGuardia announced a policy of enforcing the fascist 'non-residence' law whereby starving citizens will be 'deported' to other states, under the pretext that they do not live here.

"Moreover, the Board left intact the hunger ration of 8-cents-a-meal for relief recipients."

Will Congress Succumb to the Federal Reserve?

ONE OF the earliest proposals to be placed before the consideration of Congress comes from the Federal Reserve Board.

It is a proposal which, if accepted, will produce drastic changes in the financial structure of our nation.

Already the Federal Reserve Board has drafted a report for the consideration of the Seventy-Seventh Congress. Presumably, the report calls for the cancellation of the President's power to devalue the dollar and to issue greenback currency.

And it is advertised by the Board that the objective behind this requested legislation is to "safeguard the United States against inflation."

Passingly, we recollect that the gentlemen who requested the passage of the *Federal Reserve Act* in 1913 advertised that the purpose of the Act was to avoid future depressions.

Concerning the report above mentioned — it was prepared jointly by the Federal Reserve Board, the members of the Federal Advisory Council and all the presidents of the twelve central banks of the Reserve System.

It is evident, on reading the report, that the ultimate objective of these gentlemen is to have Congress cede to the Federal Reserve Board and Federal Reserve Banks even greater powers than now possessed by them. Incidentally, should this report be acted upon favorably by the Seventy-Seventh Congress, it will render the practical power possessed by Congress to coin and regulate the value of money purely theoretic.

* * *

Recollecting that the Federal Reserve Banks are privately owned corporations [which fact is borne out by the *Federal Reserve Act* itself and attested to by Marriner S. Eccles, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board], these private corporations will accomplish a *coup* of prime magnitude, meanwhile the nation, whose attention is concentrated upon getting in or out of war, will pay little heed to the most momentous financial proposal since the establishment of the Federal Reserve Banks in 1913.

Specifically, the measures proposed to Congress by the Federal Reserve Board are as follows:

1. Increase in the statutory reserves that banks are required to carry against their deposits. The present maximum reserve rate of 26 per cent of deposits required for banks in the largest cities would be increased to a possible 52 per cent at the discretion of the reserve board. Corresponding increases would be made in reserve requirements for banks in other groups. The requirements would be extended to apply to non-reserve member state banks.

2. Remove the sources of further potential expansion in reserves by allowing the President's power to issue $3-billion of greenbacks to lapse. Cancel existing authority for further monetization of foreign silver and the authority to issue silver certificates against the "written up" *(seigniorage)* value of existing silver stocks.

3. End the President's power to change further the gold value of the dollar by permitting the present authorization to lapse.

4. Take steps to prevent further imports of gold from expanding existing bank reserves and deposits. This step to be carried out "without interfering with any assistance that this country may wish to extend to friendly nations."

5. Finance the ordinary and defense requirements of the Government by direct borrowing from the public instead of through the sale of Government securities to banks. The latter method, it was pointed out, is piling up additional bank deposits.

6. Take steps to balance the Federal budget, raising a larger part of the money needed for defense through taxation. This would be accomplished by collecting more tax revenue as the national income increases.

* * *

The above six proposals have been laid before the Seventy-Seventh Congress for its consideration.

As momentous as these proposals are, not much publicity will be given to them in the press, despite the far-reaching effects which, if adopted into law, they will have upon the general public.

Commenting upon Proposal No. 5, it is our understanding that this proposal, if acted on favorably by Congress, will result in the Government's *commandeering* — at least in part — the billions of dollars which private citizens now have deposited in banks for safekeeping.

It is evident from Proposal No. 5 that the Federal Reserve Banks and their affiliates are aiming at forcing the depositors in the banks — rather than the banks themselves — to buy future Government bond issues for national defense.

Therefore, when it is ascertained that John Public has $10,000 on deposit in a Federal Reserve affiliate bank — his local bank — the Government will say to John: "Mr. Citizen, we will take all, or part, of your $10,000 for national defense. We will give you a bond which will be redeemable ten years hence; a bond which, in the meantime, is not negotiable, as is a ten-dollar bill; a bond on which you will pay a tax."

This means that Mr. Public will not be able to use his $10,000 for ordinary investment. He will not be able to use all or part of it to buy a new car, a new house, groceries, wearing apparel.

This means that the American standard of living definitely will depreciate almost to the level of the European standard of living.

It will avail Mr. Public nothing if he complains — should such a bill be passed — that the bonds in the vaults of the Federal Reserve Banks and their affiliates are not taxable.

It will avail Mr. Public nothing if he complains that on the bonds held in the Federal Reserve Banks and their affiliates, currency money can be supported and loans made at a profit for the bankers.

The bonds which John Public will be forced to buy through the process of commandeering cannot be used to support currency money; cannot be used as the banks use their bonds.

Definitely, Proposal No. 5 made by the Federal Reserve Board to the Seventy-Seventh Congress — if accepted by Congress — will force the general public who are depositors in banks to buy future issues of bonds from their savings.

* * *

Proposal No. 6 made by the Federal Reserve Board to the Seventy-Seventh Congress deals with balancing the Federal budget through raising a larger part of the money needed for defense through taxation.

The Federal Reserve Board suggests that this be accomplished by collecting more tax revenue as the national income increases — but always with the thought in mind of "avoiding inflation."

To our mind, this means that, in the event of John Public's pay envelop having more dollars in it two years hence, John will be forced to contribute more dollars through the process of consumers' taxes, sales taxes, etc., for carrying on national defense.

Although Mr. Public will receive more, he will have less; for, after all, the purchasing power enjoyed by Mr. Public is not measured by the amount of money he obtains in his pay envelop. It is measured by the amount of money which he can use for himself out of his pay envelop. The money extracted from Mr. Public's envelop to buy cannon, battleships, bullets and airplanes does not buy food, clothing and shelter.

Recently we have been reading in the papers that the American citizens will be expected to sacrifice much more than they have been accustomed to sacrifice.

Proposal No. 6, as worded above, translates the meaning of the "sacrifices" entailed.

* * *

Commenting a bit further upon Proposal No. 5 — which is tantamount to a proposal for commandeering depositors' money in banks — may we recollect for you that the Federal Reserve Banks and their affiliates, up to date, bought their billions of dollars' worth of bonds for ten cents on the dollar.

Practically 90 per cent of their bonds were purchased with fountain-pen money.

Mr. John Public will purchase his bonds dollar for dollar with money earned by the sweat of his brow!

Both the banks and the general public will be told that all their bonds will be secured by the $22-billion worth of gold buried at Fort Knox and in the vaults of the Federal Reserve Banks.

But the general public is liable to forget that the major portion of this gold is set aside to secure the bonds already held by the Federal Reserve Banks.

Only a small portion of it will be earmarked to guarantee payment for the bonds about to be purchased by the general public, if such legislation as indicated in Proposal No. 5 is passed by the Seventy-Seventh Congress.

(Continued on Page 12)

Will Congress Succumb to the Federal Reserve?

(Continued from Page 11)

Meanwhile, we are told that we are going to war — a new kind of war, if you will — to save the democratic way of life.

* * *

There is little democracy in a plutocratic system which favors a private corporation such as is a Federal Reserve Bank.

There is little democracy in commandeering the life savings of individuals in an all-out war to save Great Britain's imperialism.

The entire proposal made by the Federal Reserve Board to our Congress lifts — at least an inch or two — the curtain behind which is being enacted the drama of the second World War.

What goes on in front of the curtain is obvious to all — the clash of arms, the bombing of cities, the march of armies, the scuttling of ships and the misery of vast populations.

But what goes on back of the curtain is not so obvious to the over-enthusiastic, hand-clapping populations who are applauding an all-out war of destruction.

And what is being enacted behind the curtain?

It appears to us — as we see it — that one of the main motives responsible for this war is an effort on the part of the internationalists to gain control over the world's populations — both rich and poor; both property classes and propertyless masses — through the commandeering or nationalizing of gold, which already has been accomplished; and through the commandeering or practical nationalizing of bank deposits, which will happen if the proposals listed above are carried to their logical conclusion.

What is about to happen in America already has happened in England, Germany and elsewhere.

Financial freedom will vanish, as will political freedom.

Already Mr. Roosevelt has intimated in his message to the Seventy-Seventh Congress that persons who do not coincide with his views on matters of foreign policy and war will be treated in this free America just as persons who do not coincide with Mr. Hitler's views and Mr. Stalin's views are treated in Germany and Soviet Russia.

With that announcement there is sounded by presidential voice the death-knell to political freedom — and also to freedom of conscience; for it is not beyond the realm of probability (not possibility) that some leader will arise to assemble his compatriots to join with him in a religious crusade, compatible, as he sees it, with the principles of the Prince of Peace, among which principles are, "He who uses the sword shall perish by it."

When that day comes; when some leader shall gather about him millions of persons who are opposed conscientiously to the warmongering now current in this nation and now supported by a veiled presidential threat, perchance he and his followers will experience the delights of an American version of Siberia.

Overlooking the Soviet

(Continued from Page 8)

a favorite phrase of Nicholas Lenin. The latter, more than once, compared the Soviet Union, existing in the midst of nations which respected religion, the home and private property, to a 'a citadel in the state of siege.'

"On November 30, 1940, Mr. Kalinin employed similar language. His exact words are revealing:

" 'We live in a beleaguered fortress. Of course, it is a tremendous fortress covering one-sixth of the world's surface. But the other five-sixths are held by our unprincipled, irreconcilable enemies.'

* * *

"The Nazi dictator has from time to time used language which outlines his dreams of world domination.

"America, with commendable foresight, has taken the threat seriously.

"Simultaneously, it should be noted that the Soviet Czar, both in person and through his henchmen, has addressed comparable admonitions to the people of the civilized world.

"Stalin's actions, though from motives of present prudence, are limited in scope, are entirely in line with his announced plan.

"The Marxist program is likewise satisfied with nothing less than world empire.

"The Communist High Command is intensifying its warfare against God, against the family, against social reconstruction.

"On which side of the barricades is American Democracy?"

Pot Calls the Kettle

EDITING a national magazine of comment like ours, observes the office philosopher, "calls for a state of grace and a sense of humor." And, seriously, there do be times when both are under a terrific strain.

In the lighter vein, however, we've just noted these three paragraphs from an editorial in the *Chicago Daily News:*

"To the lame-duck Senator Holt, his opponents are 'profiteers,' 'hypocrites,' 'internationalists,' 'so-called patriots,' and 'traitors.'

"To Senator Wheeler, war refugees now sheltered in this country are 'foreign slackers,' and his American opponents are 'interventionists,' 'war-mongers,' 'sordid romanticists' and 'reckless adventurers.'

"Our appeasers apparently see nothing amiss in thus reviling and misrepresenting their fellow citizens . . ."

And so also — to the Frank Knox-Kuhn Loeb *Chicago News* anybody who disagrees with their program is an "appeaser!"

Burton K. Wheeler

"WE DO NOT believe that the preservation of the American people, or our democracy, depends upon any foreign nation," declared Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana in his radio address which answered the President's recent fireside chat.

"It is hard for us to visualize a nation of 130-million people so weak that we cannot defend ourselves, when our forefathers, in the 13 original colonies—poor, divided and weak—were not only able to conquer an army already in our midst, but to build the greatest democracy the world has ever known."

Conceding that peace will be difficult, if not impossible, to define while war rages, Senator Wheeler asserted the present war "cannot last forever," that peace will eventually come to Europe, "fleeting though it may be."

The "working basis" which Senator Wheeler suggested for a peace program was:

Restoration of Germany's 1914 boundaries with an autonomous Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Restoration of independent France, Holland, Norway, Belgium and Denmark.

Restoration of Alsace-Lorraine to France.

Restoration of German colonies.

Protection of all racial and religious minorities in all countries.

Internationalization of the Suez Canal.

No indemnities or reparations.

Arms limitation.

* * *

Expressing sympathy with "the oppressed and persecuted everywhere," and declaring his sympathy with the British "is both deep and sincere," Senator Wheeler asserted that until this country settles its own problems at home, it is in greater danger of losing its democracy than from any threat from abroad. He said:

"We realize that we have great problems at home—that one-third of our population is ill-fed, ill-housed and ill-clad—and we have been told repeatedly, upon the highest authority, that unless and until this situation is corrected our democracy is in danger, I fully subscribe to this view."

He shares the view of the group, Senator Wheeler said, that believes this nation should build its own defense to meet any emergency that may arise.

"I do not believe that the great majority of our people are eager to be embraced by war—and I call upon them not to be afraid to say so. I—for one—believe the policy advocated by the interventionists is insane because it will lead to total war—and war is insanity.

"I say so now, and I intend to continue to say so—even if at the end I stand alone."

* * *

Walter Neff, who said he was New York City executive secretary for the American Peace Mobilization, told Senator Wheeler that "more than 12-million persons who want to keep America out of the war appreciate what you have been doing."

Mr. Neff said his organization included representatives of organized labor, youth groups, Negro organizations, and farm and church units.

Senator Wheeler urged the delegation to defy "intimidation and humiliation because you want to preserve peace."

"I've been called an appeaser, a pro-Nazi, a pro-Communist, and I don't know what else," the Senator said. "I'm not anything but pro-American and I'm not going to be intimidated by the war-mongers, the President, the F.B.I., or anyone else."

Who Owns China's Tin?

WHO is America helping when we purchase tin from Asia?

According to Administration officials who recently announced a Government program to buy tin from China, the American dollars exchanged for tin will be used by the Chinese government to further that nation's war effort against Japan.

A reader of the *Brooklyn Tablet*, J. Arthur Buchanan, M. D., takes exception to this, pointing out that the tin mines of China and surrounding territories are owned not by Chinese but by foreigners, principally citizens of the British Empire.

It is they who reap the benefits of American tin trade, he says in the Readers' Forum of the *Tablet*.

"An unbiased person who studies the directorate of the various mining enterprises throughout the world," this correspondent declares, "will become convinced that during the preceding century a large portion of the earth's surface was subjected to an attack or attacks by aggressors. These aggressors seem to be largely citizens of the British Empire and the mines are paying the profits of these aggressors. The war in Asia is to drive the previous aggressors from the territory of Asia. I am heartily in favor of Asia for the Asiatics and America for the Americans."

The writer presents a list of companies comprising the Tin Producers Association Inc. which maintains a monopoly on the world tin industry.

Interlocking directorates of the firms reveal the extent to which the monopoly has been perfected. Headquarters of practically all of the companies are in England.

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The list, as submitted by Dr. Buchanan to the *Tablet:*

Tin Producers' Assn. Inc. 11 Ironmonger Lane, London, E.C.2. Formed in 1929. Controls the tin business. President, His Excellency Don S. I. Patino. Council: Sir W. H. Peat, chairman; R. Pawle, vice-chairman. Directors are J. E. Addinsell, F. Allen, W. H. Edwards, Sir G. B. H. Fell, E. W. Janson, J. Laird, R. T. Meig, Don. A. Patino, E. V. Pearce, A. M. Sellar, R. Temple, Rt. Hon. Viscount Elibank, W. Graham, F. M. Edmonds, H. B. E. Baker, H. S. Russell.

Consolidated Tin Mines of Burma, Ltd. Alderman's House, Bishopgate, E.C.2. Acquired in 1928, 17 tin mines, area of 12,130 acres, situated in Burma. Directors, R. Pawle, I. B. Bullen, P. E. Day, W. J. C. Richards. Profits for 1939, £48,974.

Singei Besi Mines, Ltd., 73 Cheapside, London. Directors are C. V. Thomas, W. J. Payne, G. W. Simms, S. Wickett. Registered October 5, 1909. Acquired a lease of the Singei Besi Tin Mines area of 117 acres in the district of Kuala Lumpur, Selangar. Federated Malay States (F.M.S.) Dividends, 40 per cent in 1939.

Pelepah Tin Dredging, Ltd. Owned by the above company, 73 Cheapside, E.C.2. Mines in Jahore, 293 acres. Not productive. Directors, C. V. Thomas, H. W. Hewitt, G. N. Simms, J. H. Rich.

Sungei May Dredging, Ltd. 75 Cheapside. 600 acres in Selangar, F. M. S. Directors, J. H. Rich, R. B. Bannon, N. J. Payne, C. V. Thomas, G. W. Simms. Dividends 20 per cent 1939-40.

Tranah Mines, Ltd. 73 Cheapside. Directors, C. D. Thomas, J. H. Rich, C. V. Stephens, W. J. Payne, H. Rich. Controls about 5,500 acres in Perak, F. M. S. Dividend, 30 per cent in 1940.

Ayer Hitami Tin Dredging, Ltd. 73 Cheapside. Directors, C. V. Thomas, N. J. Payne, G. U. Simms, J. H. Rich. 735 acres in Ulu Langat district of Selangar, F. M. S. Dividend, 13 per cent in 1939. The mines of the Federated Malay States are under the control of Federated Malay States Chamber of Mines. Two people with Asiatic names are on the board of the chamber.

Malayan Tin Dredging, Ltd. 73 Cheapside. Directors, C. V. Stephens, H. A. Hope, A. J. Kelman, W. J. Payne, E. V. Pearce. 2,545 acres in Perak, F. M. S. Dividend, 17 per cent in 1939.

Malaysian Tin, Ltd. 3 Central Bldg., Westminster, S.W.I. Directors are Viscount Elibank, Sir M. Barlow, Sir A. B. Gridley, Col. B. C. Lockhart Jervis. Dividends 9 per cent in 1939.

Kuala Kampar Tin Fields, Ltd. A. A. Henggler, H. A. Coates, W. H. Edwards, J. H. B. Will, Sir W. Massy Greene, W. E. Johnson. 2,368 acres in Perak. Dividend 3 per cent, 1939.

Kindang Tin Dredging, Ltd. Same directors. 691 acres in Rawang, F. M. S. No dividend since 1929.

Kinta Kellas Tin Dredging Co., Ltd. Directors, P. J. Burgess, F. G. Payne, H. P. Macer. 3,400 acres in Perak, F. M. S. Dividend, 7½ per cent in 1939.

Kinta, 62 Rue St. Lazore, Paris. Directors, P. Collette, L. Courteaux, J. Chaubet, J. Prevet, J. Descraques, A. Kirch, Y. Lyon, P. Pams, R. T. Meig. Mines in Perak, F. M. S. Dividend small in 1938.

Kinta Tin Mines, 65 London Wall Bldg., E.C.2. Directors, C. C. Inchbald, F. E. Mair, H. P. Hood, R. C. Savory, S. Wickett. About 2,600 acres in Perak, F. M. S. The government of the F. M. S. is part owner. Dividend, 15 per cent in 1939.

Klang River Tin Dredging Co., Ltd. Directors are A. A. Henggler, D. H. Hampshire, L. E. Slowe, H. E. Nixon, H. A. Coates. 340 acres in F. M. S. Dividends have been as high as 80 per cent.

Kranviat Pulai, Ltd. 73 Cheapside, E.C.2. Directors, C. V. Stephens, A. J. Kelman, W. J. Payne, E. V. Pearce. 2,542 acres in Perak, F. M. S. Dividend, 12½ per cent in 1939.

Kramal Tin Dredging, Ltd. Directors are A. A. Henggler, H. A. Coates, W. H. Edwards, J. H. B. Will, Sir W. Massy Greene, W. E. Johnson. 551 acres in Perak, F. M. S. Dividend, 25 per cent in 1939.

Tekka Paiping, Ltd. 65 London Wall, E.C.2. Directors, F. E. Mair, J. W. Balitho, J. L. Holman, H. Rich, S. Wickett. 293 acres in Perak. Dividend, 5 per cent in 1939.

Temak Tin Dredging, Ltd. 4 London Wall Bldg., E.C.2. Directors are R. S. Baker, E. T. McCarthy, R. Pawle, F. E. dePaula. 275 acres in Batang Padang district, F.M.S. Dividend, 7½ per cent in 1938.

Thabawlik Tin Dredging, Ltd. Directors, F. Levernier, H. Huntsman, F. V. Stanley, W. A. Freeman, E. E. G. Boyd, D. J. Richardson, C. C. Nordin. 65 acres in lower Burma. Dividend 25 per cent in 1938.

Thailand Tin Mines, Ltd. 62 London Wall Bldg. Directors, E. V. Pearce, W. T. Anderson, N. C. Stenning, A. A. Henggler, Capt. O. Lyttelton, Don A. Patino, P. K. Horner. 684 acres in Province of Pattani, Thailand. Very profitable company. Reserves of over $500,000 and only 7 years old.

Calls Third Reich Red

MORE THAN two years ago, the *Philadelphia Record* observed that "Hitler's Naziism had become indistinguishable from Stalin's Communism; that the capitalists who financed the Fuehrer had neglected to grasp the import of the word 'Socialist' in the name of Hitler's National Socialist party.

"Yesterday Hitler told Germany and the world that the Third Reich *is* a Red Reich; that his war *is* a war against capitalism; that 'I enter the arena as a representative of the "have nots".'

"Drawing the lines so clearly the most stupid cannot mistake them, he cried:

" 'The struggle is one between two worlds, and . . . one of these worlds must break asunder.'

"There is the naked truth. Only the blind and the greedy have deluded themselves that Hitler was a freak who would pass like a fashion or a fool who could be 'handled'."

And this comment adds:

"Hitler talks more like Stalin than Stalin himself. Whatever menace Russia is today, the Communism of the Third Reich is an equal if not a greater menace to freedom, liberty, decency and every principle civilized men hold dear.

"Hitler is terribly right in his declaration that 'one of these two worlds must break asunder.'

"This war is to keep it from being our side!"

Munitions for Japan!

CHARGES that a British munitions factory is still 'making armaments for Japan' were aired in London recently (Jan. 2) by Alfred Edwards, Labor member of Parliament, according to a copyright dispatch to the *New York Times.*

The story said the Laborite would "support the cause of workers threatening to strike rather than produce munitions they believe to be destined for Japanese guns."

He said he had written to Prime Minister Churchill for an explanation but had received no reply.

Neither Japan, Italy nor Germany would have been in any position to start hostilities if they had not been supplied with armaments by Great Britain and the United States, the Parliament member said.

British Business as Usual

FREDERICK M. MYERS, field organizer for the National Maritime Union, recently charged that England's proclaimed need for merchant vessels is faked.

"At this moment," he declared, "British ships are carrying Venezuelan oil and Chilean copper to Spain for reshipment to Germany and Italy.

"If England needs ships, let her use her own and not take ships out from under American crews."

Some Public Reactions

Yes, Mr. President—but

THE PRESIDENT'S fireside chat — which SOCIAL JUSTICE, last week, called a "door slamming speech" against any wish-thinking for world peace — and the message to Congress which, in a word, made his previous utterances "official," have by now received wide study and comment.

Unquestioning agreement, by those editorial writers who accept the various "polls" as expression of the American people's opinion, are less valuable, it seems to us, than those comments and criticisms which undertook to analyze the President's logic.

Not "opposition" to the President, therefore, but calm and unstampeded judgments, it seems to us, are valuable.

Not "heat" but "cold light" is the nation's need.

* * *

Of the fireside chat, the *Dubuque Tribune*, national Catholic daily newspaper, says:

"The speech had been rewritten several times. And, according to Chesly Manly, Washington correspondent, Robert E. Sherwood had a hand in it. Sherwood is one of the policy makers of the William Allen White *Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies*. He is known as one of the most bellicose interventionists in the United States. He was one of the first to issue a 'public demand' for a declaration of war against the axis powers. He was one of the 170 interventionists who signed a petition, which the White House released with implied approval, urging Mr. Roosevelt to commit this country to a policy of doing everything that may be required to assure defeat of the Axis powers.

"On the same day Verne Marshall, chairman of the *No-Foreign-War Committee*, asserted that 'this is no war to save democracy any more than was the war of 1914-1918.' Furthermore he placed this interesting question:

" 'If he (President Roosevelt) gives away three billion dollars worth of our defense materials and equipment to Britain, while there is still, according to his own words, one-third of our people ill-housed, ill-fed and ill-clothed, I wonder what would happen to that one-third of our own American people if THEY had that $3-billion?'

"Millions of our people had the same thought while they listened to the President's most generous 'giving-away to others' speech."

* * *

Still Waiting Details

"Mr. Roosevelt did right in using his remarkable powers of persuasion to win the people of this country over to support of the policy which we must adopt," says the *Baltimore Sun*, which adds:

"He would have done better had he given them a clearer exposition of the way in which that policy is to be implemented.

"He would have done better had he suggested by what legal process our resources should be made available to the English Government and by what means he proposes to give the Congress an opportunity to express its view of the situation.

"Rational people throughout the country will endorse every indication which Mr. Roosevelt gave of the course he believes the country should follow. They will await impatiently his detailed exposition of the means which he proposes we should take to reach the end in view."

* * *

A Lot of Loose Talk

"Several of the congressmen who commented upon Mr. Roosevelt's speech remarked that he took in a lot of territory," said the *Chicago Tribune*.

"He took in all there is on this globe. There was no spot and no person, now living or hereafter to live on it, left outside his declaration of foreign policy. He called upon his fellow countrymen for sacrifices to make secure the freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear 'everywhere in the world.'

" 'That,' said Mr. Roosevelt, 'is no vision of a distant millennium. It is a definite basis for a kind of world attainable in our own time and generation.'

"To extend these freedoms everywhere in the world, Mr. Roosevelt says that a peace consistent with such ideals must be accepted by the present aggressors. These nations must cease to be what they are and become what they ought to be. All American resources will be devoted to this end if Mr. Roosevelt has his way with Congress . . .

"He has indeed covered a lot of territory, and certainly his foreign policy will require all the sacrifices he asks of the American people. To what extreme of giving he will ask them to go is not yet disclosed, although it is intimated.

"In one of his observations, Mr. Roosevelt prefaced his remarks by saying there had been a lot of loose talk. With that statement there can be a general agreement."

* * *

We Must Decide

"The President said he had information which convinces him that the Nazis are going to lose this war," says the *Boston Post*.

"Then he must have information from inside Germany, because in no other way can such a conclusion be reached," the Boston editor observes.

"Information concerning Britain must, indeed, be available to him. As a matter of fact, the whole world is fairly well aware of the present state of readiness of the British for defense of their homes.

"But if we have no more information about Germany and the German army than we did before the plunge through the Low Countries into France, then we have no conception of what it is all about.

"The American people must look beyond the mere siege of Britain in deciding how far we are going to go in this war.

"We must decide if we are willing to help invade and reconquer the continent of Europe.

"Assuming that the British can repulse a German attack upon their island, no complete victory will result from that. Only by defeating the German army on continental soil will British supremacy again be established.

"That this will be a costly undertaking, under present conditions, is obvious. Only by the massing of an overwhelming air force, land forces and sea power can this campaign even be attempted, much less carried to a victorious conclusion.

"We must not take it for granted that Germany will collapse if it fails to defeat the British in the British Isles . . .

"No information is available to the American people that any such collapse is imminent," the *Boston Post* continues. "The successes that the British have achieved near the Libyan border and the Greek victories in Albania are a long way from the Rhine.

"The British blockade is not working the way it did in the last war. And even if it were air-tight, we must not delude ourselves that the Germans, and especially the German army, will go hungry.

"All Europe may starve, but the German army will be well fed.

"Thus, as we estimate the problem which President Roosevelt has proposed, we must make up our minds not entirely upon the initial proposition of aid to Britain in her present plight, but upon aid which no man can estimate and billions which no man could ever count.

"This is not a local war. It is only a battle in it.

"We are witnessing the greatest upheaval of armed forces in the history of mankind.

"We are looking down a road obscured by the smoke of uncertainty and mystery. We are embarking, obviously, upon a Herculean task and we have no way of knowing if we have men or dollars enough to finish it.

"The proposition of 'no expeditionary force' of today may be translated into millions of men and billions of dollars tomorrow."

* * *

The Die Is Cast

Here are some condensed quotations from other editorial comment throughout the country. They are chosen for their geographical diversity as well as for the note which they add to the general "opinion" picture.

Detroit Free Press — "The die is cast. We are at war without having declared war."

* * *

Dallas (Texas) News — "Mr. Roosevelt is on sure ground when he affirms that our national existence and our territorial integrity are not in theoretical but in actual danger. But as realistic as he is on the international situation and in part on the domestic one, the President is not prepared to view the latter in the cold, hard light of brutal facts. So, while calling for sacrifice on the part of all, he is still unwilling to face sacrifice of social gains to carry out the rigorous program of either economic or actual war."

* * *

Denver Post — "The 'nation's policy' proclaimed by the President is so vague that nobody knows what it is . . . Are we undertaking now to say that there shall be no peace anywhere unless President Roosevelt dictates or approves the terms? Under the *Constitution* Congress is our policy making department. But, instead of telling Congress what national policy he thinks it

(Continued on Page 15)

Comment

(Continued from Page 14)

should adopt, the President told Congress 'our national policy is this'."

* * *

Cincinnati Times-Star — "Mr. Roosevelt's urging of greater speed in the national defense program will meet with practically unanimous approval. There is no difference of opinion among patriotic Americans on this subject. There is difference of opinion as to whether we ought to go in for an all-out war. This difference of opinion cannot be shouted down so long as we are at peace and remain in fact a democracy."

* * *

Christian Science Monitor — "The world may not be ready yet for a genuine 'moral order.' Nor is the United States prepared to impose its concept upon the world. But inescapably it must resist an immoral world order, and must act more positively to establish the most feasible and effective opposite."

* * *

New York Herald-Tribune — "The President's message to Congress . . . makes the fact equally clear that the decision between peace and war does not lie in our hands. Under their 'one-way international law,' the dictators will make war upon us when and if they please, regardless of the extent to which we do or do not aid their enemies."

A 'Thread of Fear'

A "THREAD OF FEAR" ran through the utterances of Senators and Representatives who voiced reactions to the message of President Roosevelt, reports Mr. Willard Edwards, Washington correspondent for the *Chicago Tribune* Press Service.

"That fear," he reports, "was prompted by a realization that the United States now seems irrevocably pledged to 'war on the world,' as one Congressman put it. And many noted that a war dictatorship appears near for this nation."

If you have been a reader of SOCIAL JUSTICE you will recognize many a familiar warning in past months reiterated in these opinions.

* * *

The message of the President was "intended to frighten the American people to a point that they would surrender their liberties and establish a wartime dictatorship in this country," said Senator Burton K. Wheeler, Montana Democrat, and one of the leading non-interventionist leaders.

* * *

"Sentence after sentence battered at America's faith in herself," declared former Governor Philip F. La Follette of Wisconsin in an address sponsored by the *America First Committee*.

"The President," said the former Governor, "told us that this great nation which won and kept her freedom by herself, is now huddled behind the battered British fleet, that our fate is being decided in Europe!

"The freedom of America was decided not by battles in Europe, but by the courageous pioneering of men and women who left Europe because they wanted no more of the endless bloodshed and interminable wars of the Old World.

"Nobody guarded our liberty for us in this century and a half. We did it ourselves. Nobody is going to protect it for us in the years ahead. There will be a free America only so long as we, and we alone, have the stuff it takes to keep us free."

* * *

Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, a supporter of aid to Britain short of entering the war, said the President "is asking again for unlimited personal authority to loan abroad as much as he sees fit, without coming to Congress for appropriations or further authority, and confusing inextricably our already confused defense program with that of England."

* * *

Representative George H. Tinkham of Massachusetts said: "President Roosevelt declared war upon the world! He announced that the United States will impose its principles of government and philosophy by force of arms, if necessary, on every continent. The conclusion is irresistible."

* * *

"I agree with most of what the President said," said Representative Charles A. Gifford, also of Massachusetts. "If he hadn't embraced the whole world it would have been better. I expect to vote to give aid to Britain. The President, however, seems to have enlarged upon that until it's rather frightening."

Representative Albert E. Carter, of California said it was an urgent call for extreme preparedness and aid to England "which will lead us into war unless the situation is handled very carefully."

"He is still making war speeches," remarked Senator Arthur Capper, of Kansas, "but the important thing is for Congress to exercise its responsibilities and do what it thinks is best. I am still for keeping out of war over there."

Representative James W. Wadsworth, of New York, said he was in general accord with the foreign policy laid down in the speech.

"I am glad that the President emphasized that the period ahead is to be a period of personal sacrifice and not personal profit," commented Senator James F. Byrnes, of North Carolina.

"If there was ever any doubt as to Mr. Roosevelt's intentions," said Representative Dewey Short, of Missouri, "it is now dissipated. It is as clear as sunlight that he is getting us into war."

ANY INDEPENDENT THINKER

—From the Daily Tribune of Dubuque, Iowa

It's a 'Lot of Territory'

GEN. HUGH S. JOHNSON, the military columnist, said the President's message "sounded a new note in the nature of Woodrow Wilson's high enterprise, but overtopped it by far.

"We are going out this time not merely to make the world safe for democracy but to do much more: to procure 'everywhere in the world' four 'freedoms' — of speech, of worship, from want and from fear — to all people, whether they want them or not.

"It's a lot of territory," observes Gen. Johnson, "and some job — Uncle Sam, Old Dutch Cleanser! for the whole, grimy, cock-eyed world!

"We tried that once on a much smaller scale.

"Can't we ever learn?"

* * *

A later column of the General's (Jan. 8) quotes a dispatch from London paraphrasing a logical British reaction to the President's message:

"The United States says over and over again that Britain must be aided because Britain is essential to United States defense . . . The United States *is hiring us to fight its battles, as we once hired the Hessians . . . but we are not getting our pay*" — meaning thereby that the United States is not insuring the delivery of munitions by putting its Navy into the armed Atlantic convoy service.

But, perhaps, the President's new "Atlantic fleet" can correct the deficiency!

* * *

Outspoken Boake Carter, who has had his troubles with the dictatorial hatchetmen, said this:

"We, in America, often proclaim that we still enjoy the liberty of freedom of discussion. *I don't think we do any more!*

"There could be nothing truer than Mr. Roosevelt's words when he said: 'We must admit that there is risk in any course we may take'."

'Buy American'

A new organization, *Committee to Aid Britain by Reciprocal Trade*, has been organized in the Northwest and induced shopkeepers in Portland, Oregon, and other cities to install in their windows signs reading, *"Buy British."*

Says the *New York Times*: "Merchants are piling English goods on their counters beneath crossed standards of Union Jack and Stars and Stripes!"

"What a pity," Boake Carter comments, "that Americans can't *'Buy American'* so that they can help their own unemployed countrymen to become employed. Americans, it seems, *always want to help everyone but Americans.*"

Letters

(SOCIAL JUSTICE aims to make this page a free forum and readers' opinions are invited. Naturally, the views expressed are not always those of this magazine. We cannot guarantee that contributions sent to SOCIAL JUSTICE can be returned to the writers. Letters not signed with the writer's name and address cannot be considered, although the name will not necessarily be used. We reserve the right to publish all letters received unless contrary instruction is specifically given.)

No Christian War

TO THE EDITOR:

How can anyone, and especially some so-called "Christian" clergymen, say that England is fighting for Christianity and civilization. The English, for the most part, are neo-pagans, while most people of Central and Southern Europe are devout Christians.

All Christians know that Christ said *"Blessed are the peace-makers for they shall be called the children of God."*

England certainly believes in the organized murder called war, having declared it on a nation which had done little more to her than hurt a few fat British pocketbooks.

Christ admonished us to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, but England negates this teaching.

Christ taught us to love our enemies, but England promotes a campaign of hatred.

Lest some think it is weak and cowardly to really follow Christ's teachings, let it be remembered that He promised a grand reward to all who follow Him, and He is One Who keeps His promises. Just the peace of a good conscience in this life is in itself a wonderful reward.

Instead of a battle between angels and devils, the war looks more like a fight between a "John Dillinger" and an "Al Capone," each fighting to retain loot stolen in the past; a fight in which a Christian can hardly take sides.

—Pro-Christ

Littlestown, Pa.

Aid for Disabled

TO THE EDITOR:

Aid and justice for the disabled is a serious problem in America. It is the crippled persons who are really suffering in this depression, because they are unable to obtain any Government aid.

Some of them for months cannot afford sufficient food to maintain themselves in health, and probably never will obtain sufficient medical care. The New Deal administration for eight years has spent thousands of dollars for public relief, but the disabled group was completely overlooked.

President Roosevelt also has failed to make a provision for financial assistance in the *Social Security Act.*

Personally, I believe the American public should know about this matter, because numbers of people believe that every needy crippled person is taken care of by the Government, or by the private charity agency, which is not true.

It looks like a dark future for this group if Congress doesn't do something for them in 1941.

—Without Security

Detroit, Mich.

'God's Acres'

TO THE EDITOR:

The "Comment" article *"God's Acres"* in the December 9th issue is one of deep significance. I believe it will prove an inspiration to all priests and ministers of America, and should be reprinted in a future issue.

The article drives clearly and forcefully the real issue involving all.

Many thanks for these fine "Comments."

Keep up the good work.

—C.E.R.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Consumer Co-operation

TO THE EDITOR:

In answer to the "note" of the editor, added to a report of letters received, under the title "Co-operatives," 2nd paragraph, 2nd column of issue of December 23, 1940, I feel constrained to submit the following brief criticism:

You say: "The co-ops have long been a prolific recruiting field for the Marxists."

This is not so true in this country as the reverse of that statement, to-wit: —that those who are attracted to Communism, when they understand co-operation, quickly desert a pure political remedy for the more just economic remedy of Consumer Co-operation. In Nova Scotia, Communism was strong and "red" parades on May Day were large and significant.

Thanks to St. Francis Xavier University of Antigonish, and the Extension Dept. in teaching co-operation, Nova Scotia today has become a "shrine" so to speak, for United States co-operators and others who visit in large numbers to see the splendid results and accomplishments of co-operative education. Today, Communism can hardly assemble a "corporal's guard" on May Day.

Communists do not "pioneer" in organizing co-operatives, any more than they pioneer in building Catholic churches, since informed persons know that the Communists *hate co-ops worse than they hate Catholicism.* The proof — Burns' *"Handbook of Marxism"* (London, 1936).

On page 1027 of this authoritative work is set forth the "official" Communist attitude toward Consumer Co-operation in *"The Programme of the Communist International"* as adopted at its 6th Congress (1928). The condemnation appears under a heading *"Ideologies Among the Working Class Inimical to Communism."*

In substance it says that Consumer Co-operation "strongly repudiates the class struggle, * * * carries on a fierce struggle against the *revolutionary* Labor movement, hampers it in the achievement of its aims, and represents today one of the most potent factors in the camp of the reformist counter-revolution."

Nothing more need be said except that the Catholic Church officially and repeatedly has not only endorsed, but promoted Consumer Co-operation *without any qualification whatsoever.*

—S.P., Jr.

Cleveland, Ohio

Universal Training vs. 'Compulsory Conscription'

TO THE EDITOR:

According to the newspapers, there is a plan afoot to force military conscription upon all young men at the time they reach 21.

Many dislike the words "compulsory conscription"; they do not have any place in our form of American freedom. They belong to Totalitarian States.

May I outline a plan which I think would be much better than "compulsory conscription."

Here is the plan: When the young men complete their high school education, they are not to receive their diplomas, but their education will continue with the routine of the U. S. Army. This term is to be an additional two years.

After completing their two years' Army service, give them their diplomas which will state they have completed their high school course and, further, have honorably completed their course in the greatest force of the world, namely the Army of the United States of America.

Have the Government grant several credits, which may be added to the credits that are a necessary requisite to enter college.

This plan will raise all these young men physically, mentally and give them more strength to fight the rigors of job hunting, etc.

This will also lower our unemployment among the class of young men just leaving school, because they will have had a better education to enable an employer to hire them much faster.

This, I think, would serve as an apprenticeship and the employers need not fear they are taking on "greenhorns."

The young men could command higher wages because they will have served their apprenticeship in some craft.

I myself would have been very glad to have been able to join the United States Army after I graduated from high school. I am certain my health, mentality, etc., would have been much better had I had a two-year course in the Army. As things stand, I am not now physically fit to go into the Army.

—Patriot

Washington, D. C.

Italians Victimized

TO THE EDITOR:

Dear God! I don't want to be too hard on an unfortunate and defenseless people like the Italians. And it grieves me even more when I realize that they are a Christian people.

But even though the Pope counselled against Italy's entrance into the war, the Italians considered Mussolini better capable to advise them.

So the Italians invaded small and defenseless Albania on Good Friday and gloated over their blasphemous black victory. This not being enough, they espied a more savory dish and with a murderous knife raised in the air (perhaps the same that they used to knife Christian France, when she was mortally wounded and fell bleeding on her knees) they tried to bring it down upon little Greece.

I am truly moved with pity over the Italians' miserable lot. Moved with a Christian feeling despite their above mentioned conduct and their hoodwinking the massacre of Christian Poland, and other unfortunate nations.

But then, what can one do further except to pity them? God spare us Christians from worse predicaments. There are indications that the road ahead lies choked with far more terrible and deadly happenings. Beyond the haze of the horizon stands atheistic Russia, smiling gleefully while viewing the cinema of warring Christian nations.

In view of the present agony of the conflict Italy has nothing to look back to but shame and defeat.

Even if she were to win with godless Hitler, the latter wouldn't divide the spoils of victory. He has already said that Germany alone will rule the world and her pagan philosophy to boot it with.

—S.G.W.

Bayside, N. Y.

'Rejected by the Builders'

TO THE EDITOR:

I was greatly pleased to read in this week's SOCIAL JUSTICE Magazine (Jan. 6) the tribute the Jesuits paid to Father Coughlin, even if it was in far off Hong Kong, in their courageous magazine called *"The Rock."*

If some of Father Coughlin's brother priests here in America, who have criticized him and held him up to ridicule in public, and the press in general, would emulate this important "rock" what a solid foundation could still be built in this Christian land.

Their silenced Brother Priest fearlessly and courageously told the truth to the American people over the air ways, but some people will not listen to the truth until it strikes them down — and then it is too late.

Who will be the first to apologize to Father Charles E. Coughlin for the embarrassing position they have put him in for daring to tell the truth?

— Mrs. A.T.D.

Homestead, Pa.

Letters

Wants Both Sides

TO THE EDITOR:

Your thoughtful comments on page 4, of December 16th SOCIAL JUSTICE caused me to feel that I should send you a German newspaper of great interest.

My sister in Germany has subscribed to *"Das Reich"* for me since last Summer and these weeklies come through via Russia. They give me a clearer picture of what is happening in Europe.

Am I to be considered un-American because I read them? Does Americanism mean one must be blind? Must one listen to and believe only the all but criminal utterances of some of our radio speakers, read only editorials and stories printed in some of our magazines against Germany, and see the pictures in movies designed only to create hatred?

I happen to be, like Mr. Willkie —an American, born here, of parents born in Germany—who came here not because they were oppressed by militarism in Germany but because they could make more money here, as was the case with the greater percentage of those who left there.

I am a patriotic American. Because of my leanings, I desire to see both sides of a question, the German as well as the English.

I believe that there must be somewhere a justification for some of the things done by the German people, but nowhere can one find a friend here willing to discuss the subject.

People of German parentage are afraid of being called 5th columnists, and others *have been taught for the last thirty years to hate Germany.*

I feel that your paper is a friend of truth. Through your paper you give courage to people who are honest and wish to know what is going on no matter how bad, to us, the news. You dig up things we never would find in other papers.

Beaumont, Texas —Mrs. J.C.

Defends Mr. Sokolsky

TO THE EDITOR:

In the November 25th issue of SOCIAL JUSTICE Magazine, there appeared a letter from A.L.S., Center Line, Michigan, taking George E. Sokolsky to task because he said, "The Jews are not a race or a nation or a nationality. They're a religion, a faith."

This letter, in my opinion, was uncalled for and the remarks contained therein were not justified due to the fact that I have heard our own priests, as well as ministers and rabbis, on the radio, refer to the various religions as Catholic, Protestant or Jew so that would seem to confirm Mr. Sokolsky's definition of the Jew.

May I say at this time that I thought Mr. Sokolsky's article was a very good one and as I interpreted it he was giving a warning to his own people due to the power they are achieving in a country where they are in the minority.

Mr. Sokolsky is one of the most liberal writers on the newspapers today. I have read from time to time reprints of his articles in the *Brooklyn Tablet* and can say they were unbiased where we Catholics were concerned.

If all the Jewish people, who are shouting intolerance and persecution were as liberal and tolerant as Mr. Sokolsky, I think they could avoid further enmity for themselves. However, if they refuse the advice of Mr. Sokolsky who, like many others among them, are a little worried because of the progress they are making in a country in which they are the minority, then I, too, think they are heading for trouble which will be of their own making.

They must realize that they must be able to take as well as give and instead of hollering "anti-semitic" and "persecution" every time someone says "Jew," say that this is a free country where criticism is allowed and upon which our country was built up.

Ordinarily, I wouldn't write in defense of a Jew because I feel that many Jews were instrumental in having Father Coughlin taken off the air and that they played a big part in breaking the third term tradition; but when one finds a Jew as liberal and broadminded as Mr. Sokolsky, then I feel it is only fitting to give him credit for what he has done for us.

Brooklyn, N. Y. —I.M.S.

Doubts 'Fifth Column'

TO THE EDITOR:

I disagree with your article on page 13 of December 23 about the Jews turning 5th column for Italy who were exiled to Greece.

It is very illogical to assume that people who are injured will cooperate with those who are responsible for their injuries.

I heartily agree with you in your efforts to destroy the war-mongers —including the Jewish capitalists and bankers.

I am in favor of a revolution to keep out of war.

Coney Island, N. Y. —A.G.

Toleration of Injustice

TO THE EDITOR:

There was a time when I was willing to strike my breast and feel sorry for my sins the rest of my life. But now I know I can not be held responsible for what I am not to blame for.

When Sisters begged those pennies from us children my mother needed them for us at home. In my childish mind I thought, "Why don't the Sisters let those children die?" And why is my mother having more children if she can't support those she already has? I was an innocent child then.

That is what goes through many childish minds. My folks — God bless them — were good and honest and hard working and saving parents. They have instilled religion in our hearts but even religion does not make sense with injustice tolerated.

Detroit, Mich. — S.G.

'America First!'

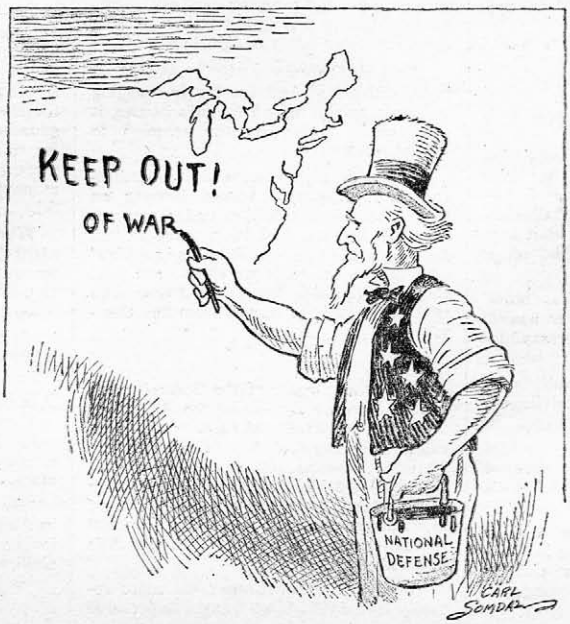
TO THE EDITOR:

As a regular reader of your national weekly, I suggest SOCIAL JUSTICE back up the *"America First Committee"* by giving more publicity to this committee and urging your readers and supporters to write their Senators and Representatives in accordance with the plan of said committee.

In this connection, I further recommend that such publicity be headlined on first pages and carry the message to all Americans to act at once to keep us out of war.

Woodhaven, N. Y. — V.A.S.

Post-Script



U. S. Still Is Free!

TO THE EDITOR:

In a recent comment in a Boston newspaper, English opinion seems to go very far on just what or what not American citizens can do or say.

It seems like America is returning to be an English colony, instead of a free democracy by itself.

The comment, to which I refer, is a remark, made by William L. Houck, member of the Ontario Provincial Parliament. Houck thinks America is quite lax in allowing Col. Charles Lindbergh *"to go back and forth across the country expressing his opinions!"*

Well, to return to the word "Democracy," doesn't Democracy stand for freedom of speech? It should, if we are to believe the rules of the *Constitution.*

I do not think Lindbergh committed any fault in exposing opinions with which many other Americans agree; and, if we read between the lines, we can see it is England's way through William L. Houck's statement of telling all American citizens to shut up.

Why should we?

Is this still a free country (or is it)?

— A.H.

Lawrence, Mass.

Another Conversion

TO THE EDITOR:

I have sold SOCIAL JUSTICE for two years now and have come into contact with many fine Christian people. I can remember a number of occasions that have astonished me, but the most memorable one happened just two weeks ago outside of Holy Rosary church in Brooklyn.

After the last mass I had one copy left. Not wanting to waste this valuable knowledge, I saw a colored gentleman to whom I handed a copy and asked him to read it, free of charge, and to report his finding to me the following Sunday.

This man returned a week later and said to me, "Son, God bless Father Coughlin! He is the voice I have been waiting to hear."

I was quite anxious to find out what he meant by this, so I asked him. He proceded to tell me about how he had lost his father and mother in a fire on April 9, 1875, when he was but 4 years of age. It seems that the man did not know just what religion his parents believed in, so he simply did not believe in God.

His life has been filled with misery and struggles.

After a long talk with him, he told me that he was going to start reading SOCIAL JUSTICE every week and that he would purchase a copy of the *Bible* to read every day.

The man wanted to compensate me with a dollar, but I told him I could not accept it because it was my job to spread the gospel of social justice.

— J.R.L.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Comment

President Not Able to Keep Peace Promise

DESPITE the campaign promise of President Roosevelt to keep the United States out of the European war, a powerful section of "official Washington" is determined to involve this country actively in the world conflict.

That is the charge courageously hurled by Michigan's Congressmen, Representative Clare E. Hoffman.

Mr. Hoffman intimated that President Roosevelt will be not able to fulfill the peace pledge that he made to the nation when he asked for a third term. He will not be *permitted* to do so.

"You know, or should know in a general way what is happening," the Michigan Congressman said.

"Because you are not here, you cannot know of many things that are matters of common knowledge here in Washington and which indicate *a determination on the part of official Washington to put us into this war completely;* to send first the Navy and then the Army to Europe, *regardless of the people's wishes!"*

As for the growing public sentiment in favor of war against the Axis, Hoffman declared that this is the result of studious efforts by war-mongers to create a war psychosis.

"Public polls begin to indicate a growing sentiment for war," he said. "Why? Because a deliberate and widespread effort is being made to create the impression that war is inevitable; that we already are in the war and that no loyal person will question the wisdom of continuing on a course which will result in sending an army to Europe."

Mr. Hoffman also attributed part of the war sentiment to the selfishness of groups and individuals who believe they would profit from a war boom.

He asked if "our judgment is being influenced by the thought that we, as individuals, may profit by actively participating in this war. Factory workers are demanding, and striking to get, higher wages, pay and a half, double pay, for overtime on defense projects. Industrialists, merchants, manufacturers, are looking for bigger profits. Stock and bond speculators turn to the market, hoping to profit through sale or purchase. Farmers are wondering whether the war will bring a higher price for crops. In fact, are we not—all of us—more interested in our own individual present welfare than we are in what happens to our children or grandchildren, or our nation, in the future?"

Congressman Hoffman labeled as "bunk" the idea that Great Britain's war against Hitler is a battle to "save democracy" for the world.

"Wars are fought to preserve trade routes, keep foreign commerce, for the privilege of doing business in the foreign markets," he said.

"Wars are *caused by those interested financially. They are fought by, and at the expense of, the common people.*

"Look around you and see how many of those who are advocating getting into this war will be called upon to make either a serious sacrifice or to face the danger of being wounded or killed."

Americans can sacrifice peace for war profits if they wish, the Congressman concluded, but the ultimate price of those profits will be a terrible depression and a loss of liberties.

He pleaded in conclusion that we "look down the corridors of time and see the countless graves, the orphans and the widows, the crippled and the maimed, the interminable list of pensioners and the black depression — yes, perhaps even the destruction of our form of government — that is certain to follow our participation in this war."

Tell Your Congressman

REPRESENTATIVE Hoffman's letter reporting to his constituents, says that nothing can stop the trend toward war "except the people of the United States."

If all these "polls," and propaganda stories that you are getting in the newspapers, do not agree with your own views or those of your American neighbors with whom you talk — get busy and *let your Congressmen and Senators know it.*

Washington, as Representative Hoffman points out, is crammed with high-paid and powerfully persuasive lobbyists for war.

They are trying to make Congressmen believe that they know the sentiment of the people. Unless your letter or telegram gets to your Congressman, he will have no other course than to believe these pro-war lobbyists.

Mr. Hoffman's letter states the situation so concisely that we are reprinting it *in toto.*

We quote Congressman Hoffman of Michigan:

"For months, the *Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies* has, through the expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars — coming from sources we have as yet been unable to identify — endeavored to convince the American people that the best way to defend America was to aid Great Britain.

Recently, William Allen White, chairman of the committee, evidently because he realized he was being used as a cat's paw to get us into a war which would last for years and which we might never win — a war to be fought on foreign soil — announced that he was opposed to the sending of an American Army to fight in Europe.

"That his Committee was interested, not in the defense of America, but in dragging us into a war to fight England's battles, is conclusively shown by the reaction to White's statement.

"One of the mouthpieces of the Administration, a columnist, turned bitterly on White; stated that White, under pressure from his backers, had been made to 'eat his own words and repudiate the interview' in which he said that we should not fight England's battle in Europe; and now hints that White will be ousted from the Committee.

* * *

"The true purpose of the *Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies* and of a somewhat similar Michigan committee, calling itself the *Ann Arbor Committee for National Defense* and composed of professors of the University and businessmen of Ann Arbor, is, as stated by its secretary, to enable England to continue the war until we can get over to 'finish off the Axis powers.'

"The *Ann Arbor Committee* more recently stated that, if we wanted to preserve our own way of life, 'the destruction of the Nazi revolution' was advisable.

"All must realize that neither the Axis powers nor the so-called 'Nazi Revolution' can be destroyed without sending not only our Navy but an Army to overrun Germany and Italy.

"Most of us know that, if such a task is not utterly impossible, to attempt it would result in a war running over many years, the bankruptcy of our country, the death of millions of our men. It is difficult to believe that any sane person, who believes in America first, would advocate that course.

"Prior to the President's Sunday night address and apparently instigated by persons here in Washington, 170 so-called leaders of American thinking — and they are anything but that — wired the President to the effect that we must at once get into the conflict with England.

"They are not realists.

"They utterly ignore the physical facts.

"They forget the Atlantic ocean which we would have to cross to wage successful battle against the Axis powers. They ignore the fact that we are unprepared and that Germany is armed.

"Their move, as have been the activities of the *Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies,* was a build-up in furtherance of the President's efforts to lead us into war.

* * *

"Willkie and Roosevelt both promised during the campaign that they would keep us out of this war. Had Roosevelt announced that he would get us into it, Willkie that he would keep us out of it, Willkie would be the occupant of the White House now, not Roosevelt!

"Whether Willkie would have kept his promise, no one knows. Up to the present time, notwithstanding his words, the acts of the President are leading us along the road to war.

"Nothing can stop this trend toward war *except the people of these United States.* If they want to stay out of war, all they need to do is to make an overwhelming protest to their Congressmen.

"Congressmen do not want war. They will never declare war unless they are deceived as to the wishes of their home folks, or the home folks demand war.

"Don't forget that the atmosphere of Washington is entirely different than that which prevails in your community. Don't forget that here in Washington are centered the lobbyists, the agents, of the Old World governments, all selfish, all seeking help for their governments. Here, too, are the representatives of those who expect to make money out of war. Their influence is powerful.

"There is not an hour of the day or the night that they are not seeking in some way to convince Congressmen that the American people believe we should enter this war.

"Your duty and mine is to think of America first. To remember that self-preservation is the law which governs nations as well as individuals and that, after all, our first duty is to our own country.

"Let us, each one of us, be as loyal, as patriotic, to America as Englishmen are to England. Let us do as they do, think first of our homeland, of our own.

"By preserving liberty and freedom here in America, we can best serve the liberty-loving peoples of the world; best preserve civilization in the world.

"Think and act for America first and always."

Comment

The Church and the Fireside Chat

CONTEMPORANEOUS with President Roosevelt's recent doorslamming speech wherein he challenged Adolf Hitler and Company to an all-out war, there convened in Detroit a group of Catholic philosophers, presumably to discuss philosophical questions.

Were the public to judge the results of this meeting by certain unfortunate press reports, the philosophers were unanimous in resolutions for "peace with justice" and "all aid to Britain."

But the publicity, we repeat, was unfortunate since no such resolution could have been passed enjoying the full assent of all those present relative to all aid for Britain.

Such a resolution, we presume, would not be upheld by many philosophers who are Catholic, any more than a resolution would be sustained proclaiming all aid for Germany.

Catholic philosophy is not Kantian. It deals not with abstractions only as abstractions. It deals with abstractions which have a relation to realities.

Or, to express the thought in a clearer manner, it deals not with dreams but with concepts and ideals which either have a foundation in reality or should have a foundation in reality.

Therefore, those who advocate a program of all aid for Britain (we omit the words "short of war" because such words are Kantian) must take Britain as she is in reality; must take Britain *for what she stands for in reality.*

* * *

To define "Britain" idealistically as the defender of Christianity, the exemplar of liberty, the paragon of democracy and the glorious St. Michael driving the Nazi dragon from the parapets of heaven to the abysmal depths of hell—to so define "Britain" and, therefore, to entertain such a concept, which is contradictory to the reality of Britain as she is, would invite ridicule upon any group of self-styled and self-admitted philosophers.

Such a group would appear before the general public as the proverbial absent-minded professor is wont to appear: The absent-minded professor who forgets the most obvious things, the absent-minded philosopher who forgets the stark realities associated with Henry VIII, the English cathedrals and monasteries, the Battle of Plassey, the persecution of Ireland, the incident of 1776, the Boer War, the *Treaty of Versailles,* and the paltry few billion dollars held in escrow by the recording angel of eternity for the benefit of Uncle Sam.

The absent-minded professor and the all-aid-for-Britain philosopher would be as much alike as two peas in a pod.

Of course this comment is all pure speculation simply because of unfortunate newspapering which intimated that one of the resolutions passed at the Detroit philosophical convention had been "All Aid for Britain."

Any group of philosophers whose native abilities made it possible for them to reach the highest limb on life's tree only to shout from that position, "All Aid for Britain!"—the real Britain—would have succeeded in sawing off the limb, casting themselves to the lowly ground where babble the plain folks addicted to the ungrammatical use of phrases such as "It ain't so!"

Seriously, neither Thomist nor Scotist nor neo-scholastic would be willing to risk soiling the dignity of his cap and gown in proclaiming "All Aid for Naziism" or "All Aid for Britain" or all aid for any temporal, transitory political "ism."

The word "all" is most comprehensive. It even transcends the precincts of time, as it merges into the unmeasured expanse of eternity.

And the Catholic Church, whose Fathers long since have propounded that philosophy is only the handmaiden of theology, definitely insisted upon the everlasting veracity of Christ's *dicta,* among which are: *"Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's,"* and *"My Kingdom is not of this earth."*

It strikes us that it would be trespassing upon the hem of diplomacy, and treading upon the toes of prudence, were any group of Catholic philosophers in the United States to make life more difficult for the Catholics resident in Italy, Spain and Germany.

Each group has more than it can do to render to its own Caesar the things which belong to its Caesar.

And Catholics, as religionists, so it appears, should avoid internationalistic complications, satisfied to be supranationalistic in spreading the kingdom of Christ and in advancing the cause of the one Faith and one Baptism enjoyed by racialists and nationalists throughout the world.

* * *

According to the *Chicago Tribune* (Jan. 1) the President's fireside chat was referred to as "a trumpet call to war" by the *Christian Century,* an influential Protestant religious journal which, in its current issue, continued as follows:

" 'The fact that no declaration of war in the technical sense is asked is of no consequence,' the journal asserted. 'The President's picture of America's entire resources and economy transformed into an arsenal for Great Britain puts us into the war almost as far as Canada is in it. Thereafter, a declaration of war is a mere formality.

" 'The tragedy of all this is that the people of the nation have had no voice in the determination of this fateful decision. It is, in the last analysis, the President's war. It is his war in the sense he himself described in his Chautauqua speech in 1936, in which he maintained that "the day to day decisions" of the Executive could lead the nation to the brink of war regardless of anything Congress might do.'

"The *Christian Century* editorial reserved its strongest language for President Roosevelt's attempt to identify independent Senators and Representatives as appeasers, disrupters of the national unity, or agents of the dictators. It adds that the United States has always taken pride in being a peace-making nation which always viewed a negotiated peace as more desirable than one dictated by victory.

" 'The American people would like, above all things, to be in a position to explore the possibilities of a negotiated peace,' the editorial continued. 'And now in his latest utterance, the President has turned his back upon all attempts at pacification. He heaps vials of scorn upon the advocates of a negotiated peace, calling them "appeasers" and their proposals "nonsense." He identifies them with the "defeatists" who believe "that the axis powers are going to win anyway."

" 'This shifty substitution of "dictated" peace for "negotiated" peace, in order to pillory those who cherish peacemaking as the true role for America, is unworthy of the President of the United States.' "

* * *

Until now, the unanimous voice of the Church in America has been silent on peace and war.

True, the Catholic Church, in the person of Pius XII, has pleaded for peace with justice.

However, it is our view—a view shared with millions of Americans—that war for the United States is inevitable if we pursue the policies advanced by Mr. Roosevelt.

Is it diplomatic or undiplomatic for the Catholic bishops of America to speak out against war and policies which lead to war?

Is it diplomatic or undiplomatic for a convened group of Protestant leaders to do a similar thing?

If war comes with its devastation and terrible aftermath, which can be controlled by no legislation, will those who have survived begin to ask themselves — "What part did the Church in America play *to prevent our entrance into the war and the miseries which followed it?"*

Christian Unity

"IT IS SOMETIMES said that we are entering upon a new Dark Age," says a recent editorial in the *Washington Post.*

"Truly, the trials of the present world remind men with any sense of history of the scourges which assailed mankind in the early centuries of the Christian era.

"The Roman Empire sank under the spreading out of the Germanic Barbarians.

"The Tartar Huns in a brief flash rose in the Russian steppes and swept over Europe.

"It was a Christian England, and an England alone of all the Roman provinces, who held back the Barbarians.

"It was the Roman general Aetius, not the Barbarians, who threw back the Huns —an act which was a Christianized Roman Empire's last contribution to Europe.

"How similar is the chaos of today! Italy, with only a dream of another Roman Empire, is living in daily fear of Hitler's legions, and in her race memory she recalls the dread event of a millennium and a half ago.

"England still stands on the same rampart. And there are those who see in the new Muscovy the same old Tartar waiting to take over an exhausted Europe.

"Even the same spiritual sickness has been at work which made easy the path of the Barbarian. It sprang in our present case from the setting up of false gods.

"First in Germany, where the idea of the total nation-state was grasped as a sort of refuge for Germany's age-old formlessness, then in Russia, where a materialistic concept of the universe sought to supersede the Christian order, the shocks to Christendom came in hammerblows years ahead of the clash at arms . . .

"No Christian order can be recaptured, no Christian civilization can be saved, till the Christian world rediscovers its commonalty."

NATIONAL WEEKLY
Social Justice
Founded 1936 by Father Coughlin

Let's Join Hands With Canada

AS REALISTS we are forced to admit that our Government's foreign policies and our President's foreign speeches have so entangled the United States of America in world events, that there is now no turning back for this country.

Definitely, we are committed, and will remain committed, to a death struggle policy against Adolf Hitler and his new European order.

No longer is it a question of getting America out of war; for, as Europeans interpret Mr. Roosevelt's latest speech, the United States *will not agree to any peace even though England falls.*

This means — as we predicted at the outset — that this war will last for many years to come, interrupted now and then by a breathing space euphoniously called a peace.

In so far as the economy of Adolf Hitler will dominate Europe; in so far as monetary barriers, customs barriers and military barriers will disappear in Europe, it is evident that those who have chosen war in this nation as the means of preserving our economic system (not our "democracy") will be faced with a consolidated Europe.

Putting aside all sentiment and ideals related to liberty, *Constitution*, democracy and peace, it is essential for the nations of the North American Continent to adopt Adolf Hitler's totalitarian scheme of continental solidarity.

It may never be a solidarity of blood. It must, however, be a solidarity of money, of national resources, of industrial production, of military command.

Definitely, Hitler encountered and will continue to encounter strenuous opposition to his program of continental consolidation. These obstacles — at least a few of them — are related to religious differences, to language differences, to racial differences, to coinage differences and to a multitude of divergent traditions.

Nevertheless, Hitler has overridden all of these temporarily and is regarded by the "have-nots" as a leader *"in extremis."*

These same differences do not obtain on this Continent in such a degree. French Canada speaks English; English Canada is more American than English; our coinage is identical; there are no racial divergencies worth mentioning.

There are few reasons advanceable why the two nations — the United States and Canada — should not pool all their resources, all their brains, all their abilities even at the cost of liquidating the figment surrounding a customs office or an immigration office.

* * *

SOCIAL JUSTICE has been opposed to our entrance into this total war, which must eventually result in the total destruction of our civilization.

Now that the die is cast, there is nothing else for our Continent and the nations thereof to do except to consolidate.

The sooner this is accomplished, the better for all of us.

Delay and destruction will go hand in hand.

Consolidation and mutual protection — even at the cost of sacrificing sentiment and some ideals are imperatives.

READ REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN'S LETTER on Page 18 — Then Write to Your Congressman